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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XI.---NO. 14. WEEKLY EDITION. FEBRUARY 14, 1874.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 5, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. Rutan—An act declaring what offices are incompatible.

Mr. McSherry—Making the livery stable bill of Allegheny county general.

Mr. Anderson—To prohibit issuing certificates of death by others than regular physicians.

Mr. Rutan reported the Judicial Apportionment bill as follows:

First District—City of Philadelphia. 2d, Lancaster county. 3d, Delaware. 4th, Chester. 5th, York and Perry. 6th, Cumberland and Perry. 7th, Franklin and Fulton. 8th, Bedford and Somerset. 9th, Huntington, Blair and Cambria. 10th, Indiana. 11th, Lazerne. 12th, Dauphin and Lebanon. 13th, Berks. 14th, Fayette. 15th, Schuylkill. 16th, Bucks. 17th, Montgomery. 18th, Lehigh. 19th, Northampton. 20th, Susquehanna. 21st, Wayne, Monroe, Pike and Carbon. 22d, Bradford. 23d, Columbia, Sullivan and Wyoming. 24th, Northumberland and Juniata. 25th, Union, Snyder, Mifflin and Montour. 26th, Clearfield, Clinton and Centre. 27th, Lycoming, Sullivan, Tioga, Potter, McKean and Cameron. 29th, Erie and Warren. 30th, Crawford, Mercer, Venango and Forest. 31st, Jefferson, Clarion and Elk. 33d, Armstrong, 34th, Butler and Lawrence. 35th, Mercer. 36th, Beaver. 37th, Greene. 38th, Washington. 39th, Allegheny. 40th, Westmoreland.

The bill increases the number of Common Pleas Judges in the State fifteen, and the number of district from thirty to forty. Whenever practicable, where more than one county was required for a district, the old divisions were retained.

The bill provides that the second, fifth, eleventh, twelfth, twenty-sixth and thirty-fourth judicial districts shall at the next general election elect one person for each of said districts, learned in the law, to be an additional law judge of the courts in each of said districts. The other sections provide for the filling of vacancies at the next general election in districts where there are no president judges or associate judges learned in the law.

HOUSE.

Mr. Brockway—An act to carry into effect section 8, article 17, of the new Constitution relative to free passes.

Mr. Wolf moved to proceed with the Amerman contested election case.

Mr. Orvis objected, and called for the reading of the minority report.

Mr. Josephs moved to lay both on the table. Agreed to—yeas 83, nays 3.

Mr. Nunmer reported favorably the bill relative to costs in felony cases.

Mr. Gerwig—An act for the training of teachers of common schools.

Mr. Young—A supplement to the general road laws.

Mr. Toner—An act for the better regulation of the sale of intoxicating drinks.

The Judicial Salary bill then came up, Mr. Laidley, of Green, in the chair.

Mr. Orvis spoke in favor of the bill, and Mr. Stranahan opposed it. Several others spoke, when the hour of adjournment arrived and the bill went over.

The Committee on the Enlargement of the Capitol, consisting of Messrs. Rutan, Chalfant, Orvis, Webb, Cross, Tally and Butterfield, were in the House all the afternoon, measuring and trying to ascertain what is needed for the new Legislature, without enlarging the building.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 6, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. Rutan called up the bill providing for the settlement of the claims of State Printer Singerly, which was passed to a second reading.

Mr. Graham read a bill regulating the sale of medicine.

Mr. Anderson introduced a joint resolution to correct and record the coat of arms; also an act changing venue in civil and criminal cases.

The Speaker announced that he would sign the resolution to pay for the investigation of the Cassville school—which he did.

The Senate then adjourned until Tuesday.

HOUSE.

The order of the day being the Judicial Salary bill it was called up, and the yeas and nays on Kunsey's amendment, which reduced the salaries, was called and it was lost. Yeas 38; nays 46.

The bill regulating the taxing of corporations passed first reading.

A heavy snow has been falling all day.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 9, 1874.

HOUSE.

House met at two o'clock.

Mr. Newmyer offered a resolution limiting all speeches hereafter to ten minutes, unless by unanimous consent. Agreed to.

Mr. Allison, of Washington, offered a joint resolution appropriating $500 to paint the Governor's portrait. Agreed to.

Mr. Wainwright offered a resolution to provide for night sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays. Agreed to.

Mr. Little, of Wyoming, read an act regulating notaries' fees, bringing the Philadelphia notaries down to the same rate as those of Allegheny and the rest of the State.

Mr. Thompson, of Fayette, read an act for the protection of farmers and owners of cattle along the line of railroads.

Mr. Wainwright presented a petition from citizens of the borough of Braddock, Allegheny county, praying for the repeal of the Local Option law.

Mr. McMillen presented a petition from eight hundred citizens or Somerset of a similar import.

Mr. Orvis, one of the same character, signed by one hundred and thirty-two citizens of Centre county.

Mr. Young, of Allegheny—A petition from one hundred and fifty coal miners, praying for the passage of the joint resolution providing for the appointment of three commissioners to investigate the condition of the bituminous coal mines. The joint resolution referred to was reported by the Committee on Mines and Mining with a negative recommendation.

Mr. Mylin, of Lancaster, introduced and passed a resolution granting the Seven Day Baptists the use of the hall of the House on Monday (this evening to explain the proposed change of the law of 1794.

Mr. Cooper Talley, of Delaware county, offered a resolution that hereafter the sessions of the House shall commence at two o'clock, except on Mondays and Saturdays. Agreed to—41 to 14.

Mr. Newmyer, from the General Judiciary Committee, reported with a negative recommendation the act relative to Orphans' Courts, amendatory of the supplement passed April 3, 1851.

Mr. Christy, from the Committee on Federal Relations, reported, as committed, a joint resolution requesting our Representatives, and instructing our Senators, to vote for the bill now before Congress, providing for the arming and equipping of the whole body of the militia; also, with amendments, the act fixing the number of jurors in cases of partition, etc.

Mr. Morgan, of Lawrence, from the Committee on Agriculture, reported favorably the act authorizing county commissioners, supervisors and auditors to purchase implements for making and repairing roads. [This is the Harvey Van Voorhees scraper bill.]

Mr. Hays, from the Judiciary General Committee, reported favorably an act to provide for the submission of facts to juries in civil cases.

Mr. Gerwig—An act to fix the standard weight of beef on the hoof.

Mr. Young, from the Committee of Conference on the difference between the two Houses in reference to the bill providing for the publication of notices for special legislation, submitted a report which was adopted.

Mr. Newmyer read in place a general sewerage bill.

Mr. Wolf offered a bill to define the necessary and proper expenses incident to the election of Senators, Representatives and other State officers.

Mr. Bates, of Crawford, read an act to provide for the purchase of ground for a State arsenal, and the abandonment of the arsenal on the capitol grounds.

Appropriations.

The Board of Charities have recommended the following appropriations:

WESTERN PENITENTIARY.

Salaries of officers..... Hon.	$24,280
Repairs to buildings.....	2,500
Steam pipe for block "A".....	2,000
Library.....	500
Workshops rendered necessary by the act under which the convicts labor in association.....	15,000
Total.....	$ 44,380
Eastern Penitentiary.....	28,500
Philadelphia House of Refuge.....	35,000
Pennsylvania Reform School, Allegheny county—$16,500 for salaries and employees, $3,000 for repairs, and the balance for removal of the institution, as previously reported.....	119,500
State Lunatic Asylum, Harrisburg.....	50,000
State Lunatic Asylum, Danville.....	135,000
Dixmont Lunatic Asylum.....	37,000
Pennsylvania Institute for Deaf and Dumb: Instruction of the Blind, Philadelphia.....	60,100
Training School for Feeble-minded Children.....	20,000
Philadelphia Prison Society.....	3,000
Sheltering Arms of Allegheny.....	5,000
Home for Deaf Mutes, Pittsburgh.....	5,000

The Cassville committee left in the afternoon train for Huntingdon. It consists of Senators Anderson, of Allegheny, Chairman; Warfel, of Lancaster; Rutan, Chalfant, Collins, and Representatives Young, Oliver, Orvis, Jones, of Susquehanna, and Reynolds.

The Governor holds his second reception on Tuesday.

The Board of Pardons meets for the first time on Tuesday.

Telegrams were received here to-day by the politicians detailing the state of the fight in Pittsburgh on the Mayoralty.

Senator Harry White and Speaker Strang have both gone to Philadelphia to address the Republicans on their city contest.

The snow is one foot deep on the level here.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 4, 1874.

The House has been engaged all day on the Judicial Salary bill and made no progress in it, devoting the whole day to discussion. The discussion is not to be regretted, however. There is little else to do, and the members of the House do well to talk over such measures thoroughly. The vote will be taken to-morrow, probably; and whatever it may result in, I have only to caution the representatives of the people that they are venturing upon dangerous ground when they undertake, at such a time as this, to increase salaries.

The Senate passed three bills and killed one. The three passed finally were: Senate bill No. 22, fixing the number of jurors on a sheriff's inquest on partition: Senate bill No. 29, relative to the issuing of warrants to survey vacant lands, and Senate bill No. 30, to correct the defective acknowledgment of deeds by husband and wife of the property of the wife. The one killed was the bill to repeal the 4th section of the act incorporating the State Agricultural Society.

The bill fixing the number of jurors on a sheriff's inquest on partition fixes the number at three; the bill relative to the issuing of warrants to survey vacant lands provides that the warrants shall be issued only to the actual occupants of the claimed lands, except in the case of abandoned improvements, and requires the affidavit of the applicant that he is the occupant, and publication by advertisement of notice that application for a warrant will be made; and the bill to correct the defective acknowledgment of deeds, covers all defects since 1850 by declaring the defective acknowledgments to be valid and binding.

The bill relative to the State Agricultural Society originally repealed the 4th section of its act of incorporation. This section requires the County Commissioners of each county to pay $100 per annum to the Agricultural Society of such county. Mr. Ermentrout moved to include the 5d section also, in the repeal, which was carried. The 3d section authorizes the annual payment by the State Treasurer of $2,000 to the State Agricultural Society. The bill was on third reading when thus amended, and notwithstanding it was clearly pointed out that under the new Constitution counties are prohibited from making appropriations in aid of corporations, thus rendering void the 4th section, and that no money can be hereafter paid by the State to the State Society, except by the passage of a specific appropriation bill for that purpose, yearly, thus rendering the third section void also, the Senate, in a fit of stubbornness, refused to repeal the voided sections by a vote of 10 to 11. There seemed to be a fear that the repeal would offend the farmers, though why, I cannot see, if the Constitution had virtually repealed them already.

The Senate took up on its second reading a bill to regulate the change of venue in civil cases, and it was engaged on it after variously amending it, when the hour of adjournment arrived. The Legislature no longer has the power to grant changes of venue; hence the necessity for specifying the particular cases in which the courts may or shall grant them. The bill as originally framed specified five cases in which the courts *shall* grant changes, on application, and *three* in which they *may* grant them; but, to-day, *three* of the mandatory cases were struck out, the fourth was transferred to the discretionary list, and a fifth added to the latter, thus leaving but *one* instance in which the court must grant a change, on application. This one instance is where the prevalent opinion of the country renders it impossible that the applicant (in his belief) should have a fair and impartial trial therein. The five causes for which changes of venue may be granted in the discretion of the court, covered by the amendment, the whole ground likely to be occupied in assigning such causes, and the bill, as it stands, seems generally acceptable to the members of the Senate; but a general amendment to it was still pending at adjournment, offered by Mr. White, taking the power to grant changes of venue from the courts which have cases pending and conferring it upon the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin county, except in cases pending in that county.

During the discussion on this bill Mr. Albright dropped a remark worthy of closer attention than it is likely to receive. It was to the effect that we would be upon the verge of the most hateful tyranny when every thing was left to the *discretion* of our courts of justice. There is, as I have said on some other occasion in these letters, a prevalent tendency to crowd power upon the courts and trust almost unlimited powers to their discretion. Mr. Albright has seen enough of human nature to know that the possession of unlimited power, (and power to be exercised at discretion is practically unlimited,) is not safe in any hands whatever. Courts and juries (both) are human, and judges are human, with the like infirmities of others; and while, in this particular instance, there may be no cause for apprehension in the powers granted, yet the thought suggested in that connection, by Mr. Albright is one worthy of being carefully pondered.

A bill is pending in the House regulating the election and compensation of Lieutenant Governor; and to-day Mr. Warfel introduced a bill providing for the election and duties of a Secretary of Internal Affairs. (This is the nomenclature of the Constitutional Convention, but it is an awkward name for a public officer. "Internal affairs" is as distinguished from external.) Both bills fix the salary of these officers at $3,000 per annum, and both, as a bill provides that the term of the Secretary of Internal Affairs shall commence on the Monday preceding the third Tuesday of January following his election. Secretary is required to exercise a watchful supervision over the railroad, banking, mining, manufacturing and other business of the State, and to see that they confine themselves strictly within the corporate limits, and in case any citizen shall charge under oath any corporation with transcending its corporate functions, or infringing upon the rights of individual citizens, said Secretary shall carefully investigate such charges and may register from such corporation a special report, as enjoined in the Constitution, and in case he believes the charges are just and the matter complained of is beyond ordinary remedy at individual redress, he shall certify his opinion to the Attorney General of the State, whose duty shall be by an appropriate legal remedy to redress the same by a proceeding in the courts at the expense of the State.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 5, 1874.

The House again spent all its available time in gabbling over the increase of judicial salaries. The members generally are evidently very tired of the wearisome, never-ending stream of babble on an exhausted subject; but it still goes on, and will, until the House musters up pluck enough to change the hour of adjournment and resolve to sit it out.

The whole argument is comprised in a nutshell. The pretense that judges are an august body of men who are lifted out of the category of ordinary mortals, and must be fed on ambrosia and nectar, the food of the gods, which is assumed to be costly, is all very nice to those who think it is the easiest thing in the world to vote away people's money; but when you come down to the simple question, would the people, if this thing were left to them, vote for the proposed increase? the matter is settle without need of futher talk. There is not a representative on the floor of the House, outside of Philadelphia, who does not know that the people would do no such thing. Such members as Orvis and Brockway may feel able to set the popular will at defiance, because they calculate on the power of the party to put them through, no matter what they do; but the representative who lives upon the breath of his constituents cannot afford to speculate upon their endurance and tolerance. He is here to represent the people; and if he is satisfied that the people are opposed, just now, firmly and decidedly, to any increase of salaries or any addition to the public burdens, why should he feel tempted to do what he knows his people would not themselves do? Theories are pretty, and orators are skillful in painting the miseries of judges who have lived beyond their means; but facts are stubborn things, and the fact that the popular will is against an increase of salaries is too stubborn to be easily overcome. Let no member of the Legislature be foolish enough to believe that he can knock down a stone wall by butting his head against it.

The increase in the number of judges must reduce judicial labor, as well as increase the cost of the judiciary to the State. If, therefore, the salaries are kept at what they were, the judges will have less to do for the same pay, and the people will have to bear the burden of paying the additional judges. The new Judicial Apportionment bill creates 15 new judges. The Constitution adds two to the Supreme Court; and five Orphan's Court judges are created by the law pending for that purpose. Total, 22 new judges, at a cost to the State of $80,000 to $100,000 per annum. Is not that enough, of itself? Why, then, increase this new burden by raising the judges' salaries to a point that would require a second sum of $100,000 to pay them? That which is intolerable, the first $100,000, must be met; but the additional $100,000 is *not* inevitable, and every representative who can recall the result of the attempt to increase the Congressional pay, will do well to think twice before he votes to impose it.

The Senate has had forty-three bills printed, and after being in session only an hour to-day, had got through with all its work as far as it could go, and was compelled to adjourn because it had nothing to employ itself upon. The House, on the contrary, is away behind its work. It is trifling its time away. Let it work as hard as it will, it cannot now catch up with the Senate. The latter body has as many talkers in it as the House; but, somehow, the itch for talk has not yet assailed them.

Mr. Rutan reported the Judicial Apportionment bill to-day. The contents of this bill were sen' by telegraph, last night.

The following bills were read in place in the Senate:

Mr. Rutan, an act declaring what officers are incompatible. It provides that any person holding an office under the legislative, executive or judiciary departments of the United States, including members of Congress, shall be incapable of holding at the same time the office of justice of the peace, notary public, burgess, alderman, resident physician of the lazaretto, constable, judge, inspector or clerk of elections.

Mr. McSherry, relating to livery stable keepers, providing for the fine and punishment of any bailee for any damages wilfully done to the property of the former.

Mr. Davis, to regulate physicians' professional certificates, and to prohibit their falsification. It provides for a fine of $100 and an imprisonment of thirty days.

Mr. White, repealing an act relating to executions.

In the House, Mr. Smith (Philadelphia) read in place a bill entitled "A further supplement to the militia act," approved April 15, 1873.

Mr. Wilcox, one to provide for the due training of the teachers of the common schools of this Commonwealth.

Mr. Kistler, one for the better protection of the lives and property of persons crossing railroad tracks.

Mr. Toner, one for the better regulation of the sale of intoxicating drinks.

Mr. Young, one to authorize county commissioners, supervisors and auditors of townships to make and repair roads.

Mr. Brockway, one to carry into effect section eight, of article seventeen, of the Constitution, in relation to granting free passes or passes at a discount by railroads or other transportation companies.

[The bill provides that no railroad or other transportation company shall grant free passes, or passes at a discount to any persons except officers or employees of the company, whose names shall be borne upon the pay rolls of said company; and any person signing or issuing any such free passes except to such officers or employees, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, shall pay a fine of not less that $100 nor exceeding $500. It also provides that any person receiving and using such free passes, except the officers and employees aforesaid, shall likewise be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, shall be fined not less than $100 nor more than $500. The act takes effect immediately after its passage.]

I have a slight suspicion that the bill will not pass in this shape. The charters of all the railroad companies chartered in this State prior to 1857, are free from the clause which the amendement to the Constitution then adopted required to be inserted in all charters passed after its adoption, reserving to the Legislature the right to alter, annul or repeal the charter at pleasure. Their charters, therefore, come under the head of contracts, and are protected by the ruling of the United States Supreme Court in the Dartmouth College case, as private corporations. They claim, consequently, that even a new Constitution cannot deprive them of rights derived previously, and that among these rights is the right to issue free passes. The Constitutional Convention seemed to have the same conviction; for it incorporated in the railroad clause a condition that any railroad company claiming the benefits of any general or special laws thereafter passed, should be debarred therefrom, except on condition of complete acceptance of all the provisions of the railroad article. Until, therefore, the railroads chartered prior to 1857 accept the provisions of the railroad article, they claim to be exempt from its prohibitions, of which that against free passes is one.

The General Judiciary Committee, in the contested election case from Allegheny, made a majority report in favor of drawing a committee under the act of 1839, but reserving the final decision to the House. A minority report against this view was also presented, and the House laid both on the table, 86 to 3, which I take to be a final disposition of the case, and the contested cases in the Senate will probably take the same course.

Your County Commissioners have been supplied with one hundred and fifty copies of the new Election law, and there will be enough to furnish one to each election district. Fifteen thousand copies were ordered, but they come so very slowly from the printer that it is impossible to meet the demand. SPECIAL.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 7, 1874.

The Senate adjourned yesterday over to Tuesday, having nothing ready to work upon; but the House has been in session to-day and will meet again on Monday. Still, as it does nothing, when it does meet, its seeming industry is a questionable virtue. It has fixed upon ten o'clock as the hour of meeting, hereafter, instead of eleven, as heretofore, except on Mondays and Saturdays; and may possibly hold nights sessions next week; but as there is a strong desire to get home to attend the spring election, an adjournment for a week from Thursday next is much more likely. On Friday it persistently refused to take up a bill that were ready and waiting for its action, and it did nothing, to-day but receive new business; so that the prospect for work next week is not encouraging.

In the Senate, on Friday, the Finance Committee reported a bill to provide for a settlement of claims contracted, etc., "that may be necessary by the destruction of his office by fire, last fall, and with it a large amount of work for the State, printed but not then delivered, [the bill allows him $35,000] which is really done for the State, but destroyed, and will probably pass.

The bill relative to change of venue in civil cases passed finally, and the similar one relative to changes of venue in criminal cases having been amended so as to allow changes to be made on trials for felony, perjury, forgery and involuntary manslaughter, had to go over to have the amendments printed.

A bill to prevent trespass by hunters on enclosed and improved land gave rise to considerable debate, and was variously amended and passed to the third reading; but the nimble sill seemed to regard it as an encroachment on their rights. Mr. Playford, who seems to have a genius for field sports, is very jealous of any action that interferes with the freedom of the hunter; but the feeling of the Senate seemed to be with the bill.

The bill introduced by Mr. Warfel, fixing the first Monday in April as the day on which the terms of all officers elected at the spring elections shall begin, was amended by Mr. Fitch so as to leave school directors out of the bill, and it is thus now considerably materially changed; but as it is likely to be still further changed, before passage, it is not worth while to give its details.

A bill declaratory of the new Election law was up, and several amendments were made to it. As originally framed, it declared that the additional assessors provided for by the new law were to be assessors for the purposes of registering alone, and not for purposes of valuation. To this a proviso was added that this should be the case in all cities and boroughs and townships containing more than one election district. It will probably pass in this shape; so that the additional assessors provided for will be only for the purposes of making the registry of voters. This will necessitate the election of an assessor for each precinct for registry purposes, and in addition a regular assessor for the entire township or ward, as heretofore. Thus the township of Elizabeth will elect four precinct assessors, and the whole township; and Robinson and other townships divided into two precincts will elect an assessor for the whole township and one for each precinct besides. Of course, the borough assessor may also be chosen precinct assessor for the precinct in which he lives. It will be well, therefore, in voting at the Fall election, to also designate the regular assessor as "Assessor" merely, and the others as "Precinct Assessors." Otherwise there will be confusion without end.

Mr. Rutan called up two supplements, which were adopted, requiring returns of ward, borough and township elections to be made to the Court of Quarter Sessions, as heretofore, and substituting for the Prothonotary of the County Commissioners, in the list of those who are to constitute the Board of Return Judges when the Judge of the Common Pleas cannot sit.

In the House, on Friday, the bill to fix judicial salaries passed first reading as it came from committee. Mr. Ramey's motion to reduce the salaries to the present point was voted down, 38 to 46; but this was in Committee of the Whole, where the yeas and nays cannot be called. When the bill comes up on second reading, and the members have a full roll call record of yeas and nays, the motion will be repeated, and will probably meet with a different fate.

The corporation tax bill also passed first reading, and the bill to fix sheriff's juries in partition cases at six, was read in place.

In the House, to-day, quite a number of bills were read, and the committees also made several reports. The Committee on Mines and Manufactures reported favorably the bill to appoint three commissioners to examine the condition of the bituminous mines of the Commonwealth, which is probably a final disposition of that proposition, and the Judiciary Committee reported favorably on the bill to exempt from the penalties of the act of 1794 those who religiously and conscientiously observe the sixth day as the Sabbath.

There is an active pressure here, just now, to pass this latter bill. The Seventh day Baptists are numerous in several of the central counties; and as they are good citizens, as well as conscientious in their religious convictions, they present a strong case for those who believe in religious liberty.

Mr. Christy, from the Committee on Federal Relations, reported favorably a joint resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote for the bill now before that body providing for the arming and equipping of the whole body of the militia. This is a bill to transfer the expense of arming the militia from the State to the national government. It will probably pass; but I am not sure that it should.

The bill to regulate the publication of notices of applications for special legislation has been amended by the conference committee, so as to require the notice to be given in four papers instead of three, and the similar one relative to changes of venue in criminal cases having been amended so as to allow changes to be made on trials for felony, perjury, forgery and involuntary manslaughter, had to go over to have the amendments printed.

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The bill to regulate the publication of notices of applications for special legislation has been amended by the conference committee, so as to require the notice to be given in four papers instead of three, and the similar one relative to changes of venue in criminal cases, so as to require the notice to be given in not more than two papers, and

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1874.

THE net earnings of the Pennsylvania Railroad from this city to New York, for last year, show about $11,500,000, the company having expended in the same time over $2,250,000 for steel rails, which is nearly a million more than the New York Central expended for like purpose in the same time—a very creditable exhibition.

THE prevailing depression of business, so much complained of, does not find any confirmatory evidence in the current earnings of the railroads. The New York *Bulletin* publishes a detailed statement of the gross earnings of nineteen of the principal roads, for the month of January, which shows an increase from $6,770,242 in 1873, to $7,976,882 this year—a gain of $1,206,640, or at the rate of sixteen and one-fourth per cent.

IS IT PERSECUTION?

THIS is what the librarian of the public library of Worcester, Massachusetts—the latest city, we believe, to adopt the experiment of Sunday opening—has to say concerning the results of the innovation: "It seems to me that in our Sunday work we are doing a great deal for the intellectual improvement of our citizens, and are making use of an instrument which is no inconsiderable aid to the church in raising the moral tone of the community." Wherein is contained material for profitable reflection on the part of other communities.

IT IS now affirmed that Senator SUMNER is at the bottom of the opposition of the Massachusetts Legislature to the Centennial Exposition. We hope the report is incorrect. Senator SUMNER is a distinguished citizen, and Massachusetts is a noble State; but the first is by no means great enough to spread over the entire country; while, as for the second, there cluster no finer recollections and associations about Faneuil Hall than around Independence Square. Massachusetts must not think that the earth tilts Bostonward by reason of its own weightiness.

THE National Grange circular for January shows an increase, since the 13th of December, when the last circular was issued, of 1,666 granges. The total at that date was 9,296; the total at that of the last circular was 10,862. The membership is only approximately stated at about 780,000. The increase is largely in the South and the Valley States. The only States into which the order has not yet penetrated are Delaware, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Since the circular, of which the foregoing is an analysis, there has been an increase of three or four hundred granges.

SOME time ago, it will be recollected, President LERDO of Mexico recommended the Congress of that Republic to grant a certain important railroad concession to a mixed Mexico-Anglo-German company of fourteen merchants, rather than to either one of the American companies seeking it, and that Congress passed the necessary bill. It is now stated that these merchants cannot possibly comply with the conditions imposed, and that the Executive and Congress will have to fall back upon American enterprise if the road is to be built at all.

THE "gentleman" who was so promptly indorsed by MCCLURE and FORNEY as their "Reform" candidate for Receiver of Taxes, was lately spotted by New York detectives, and they describe him as one well known in that city as a Confidence swindler. He denies the charge, but he withdrew from the Democratic ticket, and leaves the Citizens' Centennial Constitution party without a candidate for the Receiver's office. He very deeply regrets that the persecution he has been subjected to by the New York detectives will deprive him of aiding in the great work of "Reform." He should, however, have remained on the ticket. It is a Confidence ticket, throughout, and should be made up of representative men.

THE conviction is every year becoming more general that the silk-worm can be set to weave her precious webs, with profit to the cultivation and immense benefit to the country at large, in other climates besides those of Japan, California and France. One of the largest silk cultivators in the United States, who has pursued his investigations on the subject far and wide, believes that the industry can be prosecuted in the Southern States, or some of them, at least, as successfully as in California or Southern Europe, and a company has just been organized for the purpose of practically testing the experiment in Mississippi, the people of which State are naturally anxious to encourage the enterprise; since, if it proves successful, it will, of course, be an immense benefit to all concerned. The progress of the experiment will be watched with general interest.

GERMANY seems determined to elbow England out of all the great fields of trade and commerce, if it be possible. The latest form of manifestation which this aggressive purpose has assumed, consists in an announcement, which has just been made, that the Directors of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company have reduced the steerage rates to forty-five Prussian thalers in order to put a stop, indirectly, to German immigrants taking passage to the United States by way of England; while the German government has addressed a circular to the various official journals informing the public of the various disadvantages of taking the English route, and suggesting that their own welfare would be better consulted by patronizing the home lines. The speedy effect of this proceeding will probably be a corresponding reduction of the fares by the British steamers, the result of which must necessarily be to greatly stimulate emigration the coming season.

CARRIED away by their late political successes, the Virginia Bourbons are beginning to show the real drift and character of their "Conservatism." The city of Petersburg is overwhelmingly Republican, and is now under a Republican municipal government. To deprive that city and its people of its lawful government is the scheme, as a means to which end the Legislature has hatched a new charter in which all the rights of the citizens of Petersburg are usurped, the charter providing that all the principal officers of the city shall be appointed by the city Judge elected by the Legislature. The bill has not yet passed, but the probabilities are that it will, although it is obviously not only an outrage on the citizens of Petersburg, but also on the Constitution of the State and the United States, while it is as impolitic as wrong, especially as President GRANT and the whole country have shown a disposition to trust much more fully than heretofore to the patriotism and discretion of the Southern Conservatives and Democrats.

"THIS is the worst yet. Pittsburgh wants $75,000 from Congress for the expense of fortifying in 1863 during Lee's invasion. Come now—we don't believe that Lee had any more idea of going to Pittsburgh, than he had of going to that other place with so many furnaces in it."—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Our epigrammatic contemporary does Pittsburgh real injustice in this matter. She doesn't want a penny from the government. Proud of her whole record from the beginning to the end of the war, she does not, at this late date, propose to sully its unselfish brightness by entering any picayunish claims for "compensation." Of course in all populous communities there are to be found a few who have a dollar standard for everything—patriotism included; but we know whereof we affirm when we state that at least seven-tenths of those whose names have been made to appear as claimants in this business are thoroughly averse to the whole proceedings—for which, indeed, they can in no legitimate sense be held responsible. A great many unmerited reflections have been cast on Pittsburgh by the press of the country on account of this sorry speculation—and it is time they were stopped.

THE other day the New York Assembly upon the occasion of a visit of THURLOW WEED to Albany, gave the veteran editor and politician a notably warm and earnest welcome. Forty-nine years have passed since, as a representative of Monroe county, he entered the Assembly of the Empire State. Of all who stood around him then the greatest record is in obituary. Then the present Governor and himself were rising men. Their present power blends in mutual strength, and they see as others cannot the real progress of their State. New York has very few who are rulers or counselors in public affairs in the nineteenth century who saw something of the eighteenth. Ex-President FILLMORE is of 1800, but Governors THROOP and DIX and Mr. WEED bind the present generation by living association with the days when GEORGE WASHINGTON was yet at Mount Vernon, puzzled to know whether the fire he had kindled had not gone beyond the bounds he had fixed for it. It must have been exceedingly gratifying to the venerable Warwick of the politics of a third of a century ago, to receive, these late evening hours of his life, such sincere and spontaneous tokens of public and private regard.

NOT a little heartburning and bitterness exists among the people of the South, themselves, on account of their differences of opinion concerning some of the leading rebel generals. PEMBERTON is now busily engaged in vindicating himself from attacks on his honor and good faith. He is charged with surrendering Vicksburg when he might have held out, whereas the fact really was that the Confederate forces were starved into surrender, and had been eating their mules for some time. It is also affirmed that he gave our leaders information of the plans of their generals at the time, the truth being that we captured a bearer of dispatches, and it was then understood that GRANT was inducted into the secret of all the contemplated movements on the other side. Another portion of the people are defending HOOD at the expense of JOHNSTON, whereas the supersedure of the latter by the former was exceedingly fortunate for our arms. JOHNSTON persisted in a Fabian policy, compelling us to attack him in entrenched positions, where we lost two men to his one in almost every encounter. But HOOD did just what we wanted. He gave us no trouble to follow him, but began the attack in every instance. Our army could cover itself with earthworks in two hours, and so the situation was reversed, and he lost two men to our one. A good many Southerners are blaming their generals for being beaten so soon, when they ought to be more than satisfied with the length of time they held out.

IS IT PERSECUTION?

While on the evening of the 7th instant a meeting of English Catholics in London, presided over by the Duke of NORFOLD, the greatest Catholic peer, was expressing its sympathy for the Catholics of Germany, a meeting largely attended by important people, was being held in Berlin, for the purpose of supporting the German government in carrying out its ecclesiastical policy. One act of the Berlin meeting was the adoption of a resolution "thanking the people of England for their recent expression of sympathy for Germany," the expression alluded to of course being the speeches and other declarations of the Protestants who assembled ten days or a fortnight ago in St. James's Hall. In St. James's Hall the Catholics also met, so that the two voices were different in tone and import, one crying "Well done," and the other "Woe be unto thee," were lifted up under the same roof. Whether both parties chose the same hall to meet in for the same reasons of suitableness and convenience, or whether the Catholics deliberately chose to send forth their expression of sympathy from the same place in which their antagonists had already expressed antipathy for the same cause, we cannot pretend to say. Such selection of their place of assembly might easily seem prudent and politic. However, be that as it may, the fact is characteristic of the time and country, and exemplifies the free movement of public opinion in the English people, as the prompt response from Berlin illustrates the range and influence of popular sentiment at the present day. Though nobody doubted the truth before, it is interesting to perceive so unreserved a recognition of the weight of foreign opinion on the part of high representatives of a government which even able journalists in this country sometimes call a despotism. Not many years ago prominent Prussian dignitaries would not have thought it necessary or becoming, even in their private capacity, to participate in such a meeting as that of last Friday evening, and much less to sign a petition of thanks for any sympathy regarding a government measure on the part of the English or any other foreign people. The change is only one of the many results of the development of a powerful public sentiment in Prussia, a sentiment in sympathy with freedom and progress everywhere, and which thus strengthened, is making itself ever more felt in the highest quarters.

Even Prince BISMARCK's remonstrances with the French government and his reported appeal to the Belgian and English governments on the subject of the license of the Ultramontane press in those countries indicate his sensitiveness to the sentiment of the world. The spirit of his appeals is fully displayed in the explanations of the journals which he is believed to inspire, and differs as widely as possible from the spirit of a despot or of a statesman who deprecates criticism. In reference to its church policy the German government seems to call upon those who judge it to ascertain the facts, to examine the circumstances past and present in which the policy has originated, and then to censure or commend as reason and justice may dictate. It above all, protests against hasty or passionate judgments founded upon one-sided or wholly false statements of the kind with which Ultramontane newspapers and speakers in all over Christendom laboring to misrepresent German policy, and thus render it odious or contemptible in the estimation of foreign nations.

To what extent this method of assailing the German government has been applied on this side of the Atlantic and with what success, is apparent in at least one-half of all that is written on the subject. Thus in reading the denunciations in which some of the newspapers indulge on the subject of Archbishop LEDOCHOWSKI's imprisonment, who would suspect that while the right of any one to resisting the German law, the Archbishop is not asked to do anything inconsistent with his conscientious convictions? It seems to be very generally assumed that he is a martyr for conscience sake, and yet substantially the very things which he refuses to do, and incurs fine and imprisonment rather than do, are certainly done without hesitation or scruple by Catholic Bishops in Southern Germany. There the policy of the church is to conciliate the government and avoid conflict, while in Prussia the policy is to call attention to the government as a persecutor, because Prussia, the central power of the new empire, is the peculiar dominion of the Protestant dynasty.

Another fact which seems to be too little known is that as soon as the empire was constituted, the Catholic hierarchy, with their party, at once proposed to live on agreeable terms with the Protestant dynasty suddenly placed at the head of the empire, if the Emperor would undertake to restore the Pope's temporal power. Of course this proposal was rejected, and fidelity to the church required that its ministers should labor for the disintegration of a German empire whose head failed so entirely to comprehend his duties to the cause of religion.

Another fact often forgotten and yet essential to a comprehension of the subject is the legal establishment of the Catholic Church in Prussia. The priests, bishops, etc., are paid by the government, and even those of them who most loudly complain of being persecuted, neither profess nor entertain any desire to have the government withdraw its support. The new rules regulating the relations between the church and the government were wholly inspired, as seeming to be made necessary by the adoption of the dogma of infallibility, by which the church was made a puppet in the hand of an absolute despot.

WOMEN AS TEACHERS.

At a meeting of school teachers lately held in Worcester, Massachusetts, one of the subjects incidentally discussed was the employment of women as teachers in the public schools. And it is, perhaps, significant that the subject begins to be agitated at the same time and in the same State, in which the eligibility of women as school directors has to be legally discussed and determined. We do not know, however, that there is any more than an accidental connection between the facts.

In the discussion at Worcester, the prevalent view appeared to be that in the Massachusetts schools no many women are employed. In the work of school education, it was admitted that the peculiar qualifications of both sexes are needful, just as they are needful in the education of home or the family. Schools of the lower grade, the so-called primary schools may be, it was admitted, most efficiently taught by women. Indeed, the principal speaker contended that education in the comprehensive sense, including the formation of character as well as instruction cannot be satisfactorily imparted without the co-operation of both women and men. The objection to American schools alleged not only by one but by several speakers on the occasions referred to, is that too many feminine teachers are employed in them. Feminine influence upon the pupils thus becomes preponderant, with results not advantageous to manliness of character. While in some or even in many cases the effect may be, for a while, attractive and such as, on a superficial view, to recommend the system, it would seem that facts, in the long run, indicate its evil consequences. Certainly some of the facts alluded to would be welcome to the inquisitive mind, as few will be prepared to deny that the point thus raised is one of great importance, if it is of any importance at all, that is, if it is really grounded in practical results. It is therefore a matter of regret that the philosophers who took up or, as one may say, first started the subject, did not discuss it with more thoroughness, or at least point out the direction to be taken in its independent investigation.

Neither the dignity nor the position of woman is involved in the question. The most earnest champion of the rights of her sex does not desire her son to resemble herself in any respects which would distinguish him disadvantageously from the men with whom he is to maintain the struggle of life for the attainment of its honors and rewards. Then there can be no question that boys can hardly be too early placed under the discipline which has been found best adapted to prepare them for the duties and contests of their future career. Before entering school at all they have already, under their mothers' teaching, voluntary or involuntary, received an important part of their education, and if the schools are wholly or in excess taught by women, it may easily happen that female influence contributes too much to the formation of the mind and character, while, on the other hand, both may suffer from the absence of the more stern and rigorous methods of masculine instruction and command.

In Switzerland and Germany, unless we mistake, women are not employed as teachers in the public schools. How much or whether at all the foregoing consideration may have led to their exclusion we are unable to say. The chief reason assigned for the employment of men alone as teachers in those old countries is the extremely laborious nature of the work. The preparatory training for the profession is severe, and the practice of it as regards both instruction and discipline subjects the teacher to continuous and exhausting toil. The easy ways in which many American teachers perform the duties of their office would not there be recognized as teaching in any sense of the word. Such ways would seem mere sloth unredeemed by gentility.

In the discussion at Worcester several reasons were mentioned why too many women are here employed as teachers, or rather, why, in the judgment of the speakers, the employment of more men and fewer women would add to the efficiency of the schools. Women usually engage in the work for a short period, a few years at the longest, forming a different engagement when opportunity offers; whereas men adopt teaching as the business of their lives. Hence lack of zeal and interest on the part of the former.

It was also alleged in favor of male teachers that they devote themselves with diligence to self-culture and the improvement of their professional qualifications; while female teachers, "like all women," spend their spare time in attention to their toilet and needle work.

Still another statement on the subject was that women are deficient in the physical and intellectual energy necessary to the arduous labors of the common school teacher; a remark which seems to imply that in Massachusetts where the schools approach in efficiency the schools of the European continent, people are beginning to comprehend what very difficult and wearying work the real teacher undertakes.

THE contest in Philadelphia, we judge, is virtually over, and MCCLURE is thoroughly beaten. The meeting held at Horticultural Hall on Saturday night last showed conclusively that the solid, sterling, representative men of Philadelphia are for STOKLEY and against MCCLURE. ELI K. PRICE, HENRY CAREY LEA, MORTON MCMICHAEL, BENJAMIN H. BREWSTER and WM. B. LITTLETON all belong to different classes, and are representative men in their various classes; and the fact that they all find themselves against MCCLURE, and that all the active, earnest men in Philadelphia, who have the good of the city greatly at heart, are against MCCLURE, is evidence how thoroughly the people of that great city have been roused up by the occasion.

All of the Republican members of the Constitutional Convention from Philadelphia united in that meeting to protest against MCCLURE's impudent attempt to run himself into the Mayoralty on the bold pretense of being the foremost friend of Constitutional Reform.

All of the leading Reformers gave their aid to the meeting, in order to rebuke MCCLURE's disgusting assumption of the Reformers' robes. ELI K. PRICE, the representative of the old, solid Quaker element, made a speech in which he scouted at his professions of Reform, and HENRY C. LEA, the head of the Reform movement in Philadelphia, sent a letter to it denouncing him as false to all his previous pledges, and declaring that MCCLURE's "self-asserted leadership of Reform can only pollute and betray" the cause whose leadership he espouses.

It is plain that the earnest, active, stirring citizens of Philadelphia will have none of him. They love their city and they cherish its good name, and they will not see its municipal authority pass into the hands of an adventurer from the interior. They do not recognize FORNEY as the embodiment of virtue, or MCCLURE as the personification of purity; and the conviction which has evidently taken possession of MCCLURE's chief fugleman, that Humbug is great and sure to win, has served more to amuse the wide-awake people of that city than to deceive them. The country readers of the *Press*, who find its pages covered with the blazoned record of speeches that were never made, of meetings which never imaginary, can be tempted to conclude that FORNEY is carrying on a tremendous warfare; but the reports which fill a page in the *Press* are easily compressed into a couple of squares in the other city papers, and look formidable only when microscopically magnified.

The whole newspaper press of the city is against MCCLURE. FORNEY's paper alone sustains him. The Democratic newspapers, the *Age*, the *Day*, and German *Democrat*, oppose him; the neutral papers, the *Record* and the *Ledger*, are hostile to him; the Sunday papers, Republican and Democratic alike, denounce him; and the meetings already held demonstrate that the people are against him. The battle, as we have said, is already practically over; and it is a matter of rejoicing to know that the right is once more assured of triumph.

The Cassville Soldiers' Orphan School Investigation.

In compliance with the request of State Superintendent Wickersham, the Committees on Education of both Houses of the Legislature are in Huntingdon for the purpose of investigating the charges against Rev. Prof. A. L. Guss, whilom Superintendent of the Cassville Soldiers' Orphan School. For a year or more past rumors seriously affecting the character of Mr. Guss, and disgraceful to the older female pupils in the school, have been current in Huntingdon county; and it will be the work of the joint committee to get at the truth or falsity of these reports. Superintendent Wickersham made every effort to ascertain the truth of these accusations, but could never clearly satisfy himself of the guilt of the party arraigned; nevertheless the charges were repeated, and the excitement has increased until he was induced to refer the matter to the Legislature, stating to that body all the facts and rumors he could gather, and asking that a thorough investigation be ordered. The Grand Army of the Republic, under the direction of General Beath, has been employed to be present at that meeting by counsel. Hon. Benjamin Harris Brewster and J. M. Vanderslice, Esq., of Philadelphia, have been engaged by the Grand Army to appear on behalf of the interests of the soldiers' orphans of Cassville. Professor Wickersham will take every precaution to see that all the facts bearing on the case are brought to view, and that every facility is afforded to secure justice to all involved in this most serious affair. After a session at Huntingdon the investigation will be continued at Cassville and other localities in the county, as the interests of the case may demand. It is very proper that the Legislature has taken hold of this case, as under no circumstances must even the odium of suspicion attach to any one in authority in Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, where only the fairest and the strictest rules of propriety and virtue can be tolerated, alike among tutors and pupils.

Adulterated Liquors.

The New York *World* is in favor of the proposed act to prevent the sale of impure liquors in that State. It may be open to criticism as to the method of its intended operation, it says, but it has at all events the merit of striking in the only sensible and practicable way at the root of an evil which causes a fearful amount of misery and crime. "To suppress altogether the traffic in a recognized article of commerce, even if a majority be persuaded that its use is the reverse of beneficial, is a tyranny of opinion not to be justified under a republican form of government;" but under any form, it is a proper function of legislation, the editor says to protect customers from fraudulent or deleterious food or drink. All the purposes of the special enactment, however, it is thought might be much more simply fulfilled by making it the duty of the Board of Health to protect the community from adulterations of all dietary substances, whether of food or drink. What is really needed is a wide-reaching measure like the English "Adulteration act," which obliges all dealers in alimentary articles to declare what foreign substances are or are added to their wares, and the sale of deleterious compounds are forbidden. A similar act rigorously administered here, the *World* says, would comprise all the essential features of the one under consideration, and would be more efficient than prayer meetings in closing the baneful business and stopping the scandalous cheating of the lower class of groceries.

SINCE striking is fashionable among workingmen at present, says the Philadelphia *Age*, let us solve a problem on strikes: A is an operative who makes $100 per month. It costs him $25 a month to live. He strikes at the beginning of a year for $125 per month; is off two months, and then goes to work victorious and works to the end of the year. Now, at that time, how much more—if any more—money has he in his pocket in consequence of the strike and the increase? Had he worked the year through he would have earned $1,200. It would have cost him $300 "to live;" $900 would remain his. After the strike he earned $1,250 in the ten remaining months; the whole year's living has cost him $300; and to this must be added the $200 lost in wages while on the strike, which makes $500 in all. This from $1,250 leaves him $750, $150 *less* than if he had not struck, and he must work about a month and a half into the next year to "get even." And he runs the risk of being superseded by some one who will work for $100 per month long before the time expires in which he can "get even." Such is the logic of strikes in common sense dollar-marks.

AT NIEDERPLANITZ, near Zwickau, in Saxony, a vast bed of coal has been burning for over three hundred years. The ground above this subterranean bed of fire has become thoroughly warmed by this time, and an ingenious gardener has utilized it by planting upon it a large nursery garden. Here he raises tropical plants of all kinds, with exotic fruits, which flourish with a vigor and luxuriance in the open air that the best forcing-house could not ensure.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

FOR MAYOR,
WILLIAM C. MCCARTHY.

FOR TREASURER,
CHRISTOPHER L. MAGEE.

FOR CONTROLLER,
ROBERT M. SNODGRASS.

STATE NEWS.

Thirty Philadelphians now in prison think they should be pardoned out, and have already filed applications with the new Board of Pardon.

The Philadelphia *Ledger's* obituary poet says of a departed child that

"Angels around him will keep
Their tender watchings unseen."

Even an angel would be puzzled to do otherwise.

Christian Boone, aged eighteen years, was instantly killed at Mellert & Kinsey's foundry in Reading, on Monday, by a twenty inch iron pipe, which he was assisting to load upon a wagon, falling upon his neck.

Alfred Tiley and William Zinzer, employed at the Allentown rolling mills, were both smothered to death while at work fixing a valve at the bottom of a well connected with the mills.

There will be four murder trials in Berks county, in April. The farmers of that locality should turn their attention to hemp culture.

A Lehigh county young woman, not getting along with her husband, hung herself. The disagreeable husband cut her down and saved the county the cost of an inquest, and himself the expenses of a funeral.

Two babes were born in Pottsville, on Saturday night, presenting quite a contrast in the matter of weight—one eleven pounds, the other but two pounds.

The Huntingdon *Journal* says: One day last week an individual whose name we did not learn, was carrying a heavy stick of wood, at Greenwood Furnaces, between the office and church, and in some unaccountable manner slipped and fell, the piece of wood falling across his breast and killing him almost instantly.

George Swine, an old and respected citizen of Shirley township, Huntingdon county, laid down to take a sleep on the afternoon of the 5th inst., and never awoke again. He was sixty-seven years old at the time of his death, and in apparently good health.

A Westmoreland county debating society has the following conundrum under discussion: "Whether a dirty woman with a sweet temper is to be preferred to a cleanly one with a sour temper?"

Hon. Adam Moses died at his residence in Freedom township, Blair county, on Monday, 2d inst. Mr. Moses was an Associate Judge of the county for ten years.

Three of the oldest citizens of Lewistown have died within a few days, viz.: Mrs. Martha Smith, aged ninety-four years; Mr. James McCord, eighty-two; and Mrs. Rebecca B. Matthews, seventy-two years.

The Reading *Times*, in speaking of the prospect in the coal fields, says: "Every cloud has its silver lining, and the threatened rupture between capital and labor is happily dissipated. The best of feeling exists among the companies and their employees, and the people will be spared those fluctuations that from time to time tend to clog the wheels of progress. The prospects for the year 1874 are much brighter and more encouraging at present than they have been at any time in the past."

Charles T. Yerkes, who failed some two years since—was tried and convicted upon the charge of embezzlement of some other offense—sentenced to the penitentiary—afterwards pardoned by Governor Geary—took the benefit of the Bankrupt act—has again raised his shingle as a stock broker in Philadelphia.

Over six hundred persons have joined the Methodist Episcopal Church within the bounds of the New Castle district during the last quarter.

The House of Representatives has been wrangling over a "new game law," and the people of Berks county want to know whether it's about euchre or seven-up.

A Reading dentist's poodle ate eight dollars worth of teeth at one meal, the other day.

Ezra P. Hershey, of Birdsboro, Berks county, is writing a book descriptive of his experiences in heaven and the other place—that is, as he saw them while in a trance.

An eighteen-months old child in Norristown swallowed a shawl-pin two inches and a half long, two weeks ago, and suffers much in consequence.

East Coventry has a forty-three-year old duck. She is sharpening her teeth to take part in the Centennial.

Peter Rahn, of Bowers Station, Berks county, fell from his wagon on the 2d inst., and was fatally injured.

The Mountain City Banking Company, of Pottsville, have just paid $40,000 for a property in that burgh, and propose to raze the present building, remodel the house, and erect a very fine banking house on the site.

Recently a mule belonging to Mr. James Taggart kicked his driver, a young man named Darcus, residing in Tamaqua. His injuries proved fatal.

Hon. Ira D. Richards, Recorder of the Mayor's court of Carbondale, died suddenly on Monday morning last.

The Cassville Soldiers' Orphan School Investigation.

A mother in Columbia, Lancaster county, destroyed the sight of one of her child's eyes, a few days ago, in a singular manner. The lady was spinning a top for the little one's amusement, using a shoe-string. The metal tip on the latter struck the child in the eye, damaging it irreparably.

A horse fell with Mr. Michael Gruber, of Heidelsburg township, Berks county, on the 31st ult., injuring him so severely that he died on the 2d inst.

It takes one mile and a third of wrought iron columns to support the roof of the new mill of the Phœnix Iron Company at Phœnixville.

The Venango county court has granted a new trial to Larriber, convicted a few days ago of the murder of Lew. Williams, of Oil City.

Danville is to have a street railway.

Mr. Moses Brewer, of Muncy borough, is one of the family of nine children, the father and mother of whom are now respectively 81 and 79—the oldest child being 55, and youngest 25 years of age, a death never having occurred in the family. The children were all born in Lycoming county.

John Keyser was arrested for raising a disturbance in an Altoona church, and held in $1,000 bail to answer at court.

Jacob Vanorman, Sr., of Easton, died on the 4th inst., aged eighty-seven years.

The Erie *Dispatch*, of the 6th, says: A terrible accident, the results of which are not yet ascertained, occurred at the Seventeenth street sewer yesterday. A large portion of earth caved in upon a number of workmen employed there, and four of them were buried beneath it, and were badly crushed, of whom it was reported that one, an Irishman living near the Pittsburgh docks, was not expected to live, and two others were very badly injured. All of the men, as quickly as work were employed upwards of an hour in getting the victims out of the sewer. It has been an unfortunate piece of work from the start, caving in almost continuously.

Joseph Burson and Isaac Davis, of Deercreek township, Mercer county, died a few days since. Mr. Burson was ninety-one years old, and had lived in the county sixty-nine years. Mr. Davis was eighty years of age.

Methodist divines are noted the world over for hard work. A correspondent of the North East *Sun* says of the Rev. R. M. Warren, presiding elder of the Erie district, that he has thirty-three appointments, preaches six or nine times every week, travels by rail, by horse or on foot, as occasion may require, attends not only to the spiritual but financial interests of each charge, and does a good deal of time to the cause of education.

Eight persons of one family in Penn township, Berks county, are prostrated with typhoid fever.

The South Wheeling Baptist Church, located at Ryerson's Station, Greene county, will be dedicated Thursday, the 19th instant, at 12 o'clock. Prof. J. B. Solomon, D.D., is expected to deliver the dedicatory sermon.

Fifteen thousand dollars was raised by the tea party at the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, Philadelphia, recently.

Willie Johnson, son of Mr. John Johnson of Colebrookdale township, Berks county, scalded himself so severely that he died from the effects on Monday last.

James Normine, an estimable citizen of Waverly Heights, Montgomery county, was thrown from his horse on Saturday evening, the 31st ult., and was so severely injured that he died on the following morning.

The Musical Convention in session at Freeburg, on Friday, the 31st ult., formed a Musical Association for Central Pennsylvania, comprising thirteen counties, viz: Snyder, Union, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Center, Dauphin, Lebanon, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Lycoming and Clinton.

Mrs. Mary Drake, of Cheltenham, Montgomery county, aged eighty-six years, was found lying upon the kitchen floor, in an unconscious condition, one day last week, having a long cut on the side of her head. It is supposed she had a paralytic stroke, and struck her head in falling. The physician who was summoned thinks her brain is injured.

The juveniles of Birdsboro' go in bathing in the month of January. And this is how they do it. Adjoining the Keystone Furnace are several artificial pools of water that has passed through the patent condenser, and is at first steaming hot. Certain boys then wait until the water becomes more temperate, when they disrobe and plunge in; thus they enjoy a warm bath in mid-winter.

William Griffey, of Welsh Mountain, Lancaster county, stole thirty bushels of wheat from a farmer, some months ago, and escaped into Northumberland county. The officers whom they think smart, and believe honest, and when the crash comes it is the old, old story; wine, women, politics, speculation. It is to be hoped that this latter lesson may be turned to profit. Give to the public new safeguards, give us men that have some moral and religious principle and some commercial honor, at the bottom; men of good habits and pure lives, otherwise the time will come when each tradesman and farmer will be his own banker.

"AND ONLY MAN IS VILE."

The Cassville Orphan School Investigation—Damaging Testimony Against A. L. Guss.

From the Huntingdon *Journal* of date the 11th, we get the following report of the evidence given on Monday before the Committees on Education of the Legislature, sitting at Huntingdon to inquire into the conduct of Prof. A. L. Guss, while Principal of the Soldiers' Orphan School at Cassville:

Miss Kate M. Blandorf was called to the stand and qualified. She is an intelligent young lady, nineteen years of age, of prepossessing appearance, and of remarkable memory. She proceeded to state that she had been some years at Cassville; that at four different times, commencing when she was between thirteen and fourteen years of age, A. L. Guss made improper advances to her one of which was very much like a rape under the circumstances. The testimony was simply horrifying. She stated that she had been compelled, by fear, to make an affidavit of the falsity of one of these charges. She gave other most damaging testimony. She was subjected to a most rigid cross-examination, covering a period of three-quarters of an hour, which only resulted in strengthening every point related before. In not a single instance did she fail to confirm her statement in chief. The truth of her statement impressed itself upon everybody. She is a school teacher, and one of the most respectable young women in Blair county. After a very questionable effort to browbeat the witness, and failing, Mr. Lytle withdrew from the case—a course which, if pursued by his colleagues, would have done them infinite credit. Miss Blandorf was corroborated materially by her mother.

OHIO NEWS.

The Gobble family, of Jackson township, Sandusky county, numbers 102 persons. What a commotion they must make among the gobbler family about Thanksgiving time!

William Holmes, of Harrison township, Carroll county, is the father of thirty-six children.

The lowest bid for furnishing paper to the Congressional Printer came from Lancaster, viz: twenty-five thousand reams of good paper for eleven and thirty-seven hundredth cents per pound.

Says the Tiffin *Advertiser*: On Thursday last a minister from Adams township called at the office of the Probate Judge and secured a marriage license, and, by this time, is no doubt married for the *sixth* time. His age is seventy years, and the happy bride rejoices in having enjoyed thirty-five matrimonials.

The docket for the February term of Trumbull Common Pleas contains two hundred and eighty-nine civil and eighty-one criminal actions, with the work of the grand jury yet to be heard from.

Mrs. Miranda Stewart, mother of United States Senator Stewart, of Nevada, and also of Mr. John Stewart, of Madison, died in Ashtabula recently.

The Andover, Trumbull county, *Enterprise* has the following: "Last Tuesday Mrs. Truman Phelps, of Williamsfield, was seized with a violent spell of coughing and after it had passed off complained of a severe pain in her side. Poultices, liniments and other domestic remedies were applied, but gave no relief. Finally a physician was sent for, and on arriving was made an examination of the case and found that one of her ribs had been broken off about two and one-half inches from the backbone, by the force of the coughing."

The *Ohio Clear Grit* is the name of a paper devoted to the advocacy of temperance, just started at Rome, Richland county.

The school board in Dayton is enjoying a little internecine strife, just now.

The Cincinnati *Volksblatt* styles the ladies engaged in the whisky war "corset dragoons."

John Henry, the late cashier of the defunct City bank of Toledo, has been arrested on a charge of appropriating $15,821 of the money of the bank to his own use. The defalcation was only discovered on the 3d inst.

Mrs. Frazier, of Washington, Fayette county, has just recovered a judgment for $148 damages against a saloon keeper, and brought suit against Beck, the great enjoiner of women. The lawyers have like the "women's war in whisky." Both sides make business for them.

On Thursday a large, black satchel was found floating down the Miami river, at Dayton, and it was fished out by the police. The satchel contained some chair makers' tools and a number of letters and papers. From the last named it appears that the owner's name is John Wilcox; that he is a native of England; that he had been with the Shakers some time; and from the desponding tone of a letter which the writer had failed to post, it is probable that he had committed suicide.

James Madison Trimble, second son of the late Governor Trimble, died at Hillsboro on the first instant, in his sixty-seventh year. He was long identified with the agricultural interests of Ohio, and had some notoriety in the politics of the State without having held an office, excepting on the State Board of Agriculture. He was one of the most prominent blooded stock breeders in Ohio.

The Bellefontaine *Republican* learns that a few and strange disease has attacked horses near Mingo and North Lewisburg, in Logan county. It says: The horse without any previous symptoms being manifest, suddenly loses the use of its limbs, and cannot stand. The limbs become stiff, and the horse breaks out in profuse perspiration, which continues only for a short time. No fatal cases have been reported.

They have a hermit out about Paulding Center, who entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land there three years ago and has lived in a bark hut in the woods, eating parched corn and small game, and without changing his clothes, or washing his face or cleaning his person.

A narrow-gauge railway from Bellair to Uhrichsville, via St. Clairsville, is suggested.

A shoemaker of New Lexington, named Lewis Guilbert, mysteriously disappeared recently. Foul play is suspected.

Licking, the greatest sheep county of the State, reported 244,612 head.

An old farmer, named Christian Rader, was found dead, on the 20th ult., sitting at a writing desk, at his residence, near Little Baltimore.

The Toledo University of Arts and Trade received from the late Jesup W. Scott a bequest of $80,000 and 160 acres of land near the city.

Silver and lead are said to have been discovered in Wayne township, Monroe county. Some parties are now engaged in putting down a shaft with the view of testing the matter.

Employers of labor in Chicago propose paying their help on Mondays instead of Saturdays, with a view to preventing the usual Sunday intoxication.

MORE OF IT.

The Connaughton Bank Mystery—Loose Management—Wine, Women and Politics.

[From the Titusville Herald.]

We continue this morning the report of the proceedings before the United States Commissioner at Erie, against the cashier of the First National bank of Conneautville, Mr. Williams, charged with embezzlement of the funds of that institution. The case possesses unusual interest to the people of this county, on account of the high social and political standing of Mr. Williams and the other officers of the bank. The extraordinary character of the alleged robbery, and the large amount of money and bonds abstracted, has turned a strong light upon the condition of affairs in the bank, its loose management and the private lives and transactions of its late President, Cashier and Directors. A gentleman of this city, who is personally familiar with the parties, informs us that this affair creates a wide agitation in Western Crawford, especially among the farmers and small merchants of that section who were depositors in the Conneautville bank and associated with its officers in the business and political relations of life. A more stunning blow to the public confidence has never been felt in Western Crawford. The bank was the only one in the place; its capital stock was $100,000 and its list of deposits ranged from $75,000 to $100,000. There had been a great deal of complaint among its patrons that they could not get accommodation. A few officers and their favorites monopolized the bulk of deposits. The late President, A. L. Power, and his brother and owner of the bank account over $14,000, had besides that, their father, W. Power, had indorsed their note, which the bank cashed, for $15,000. A. L. Power had been in the office of President to gratify the father and the family pride, but his resignation was called for not many weeks since, and the father could offer no objection. Ticknor, one of the directors, has been a large borrower, and Williams, the cashier, is said to be behind $6,000. When Williams was in the Legislature, there was a credit entered on the books of A. L. Power, for which corresponding stub can be found, and which the old gentleman Power now assumes; indeed, he has offered to mortgage his property for all that his sons may owe the bank, in a most honorable and straightforward manner that is a credit to him. It is said that old Mr. Power is so mortified and grieved at these delinquencies that he is quite prostrate with illness; and as he is over seventy years old, his illness may prove serious. Thus the bank is not likely to suffer from these losses, as old Mr. Power is entirely responsible. Our informant thinks Mr. Williams is innocent of direct crime, though he is a man of free habits and requires a good deal of money in his way of living. The new President is W. L. Robinson, and Mr. John Sturtevant is made a director. Mr. R. is a brother-in-law of ex-Senator Lowry, and Mr. Williams was Lowry's Senator's niece. It would appear that for a whole year there has been no overhauling of the affairs of the bank, though people were getting disgusted with the way the bank was run, and did not like the personal behavior of the officers, which culminated in a change of President about a month ago. The Bank Directors ought to be men of business, experts at accounts, and know how to sift bank accounts, but this is rarely the case. They trust implicitly to officers whom they think smart, and believe honest, and when the crash comes it is the old, old story; wine, women, politics, speculation. It is to be hoped that this latter lesson may be turned to profit. Give to the public new safeguards, give us men that have some moral and religious principle and some commercial honor, at the bottom; men of good habits and pure lives, otherwise the time will come when each tradesman and farmer will be his own banker.

"AND ONLY MAN IS VILE."

The Cassville Orphan School Investigation—Damaging Testimony Against A. L. Guss.

From the

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 11, 1874.

We are indebted to Hon. John Jay Knox, Comptroller of the Currency, for statistics of the condition of the national banks throughout the country. We give below a table of local interest:

Abstract of reports made to the Comptroller of the Currency, showing the condition of the national banks in the city of Pittsburgh, at the close of business on Friday, the 26th day of December, 1873:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	$14,759,756 98
Overdrafts	70,741 95
United States bonds to secure circulation	7,558,500 00
United States bonds to secure deposits	50,000 00
United States bonds on hand	123 000 00
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages	33,845 60
Due from redeeming and reserve agents	1,433,876 10
Due from other national banks	698,581 21
Due from State banks and bankers	925,753 61
Real estate, furniture, and fixtures	884,682 91
Current expenses	104,941 54
Premiums paid	25 151 89
Checks and other cash items	262 251 99
Exchanges for clearing house	524,372 05
Bills of other national banks	457,181 00
Bills of State banks	9 00
Fractional currency	26,325 98
Specie	238,433 63
Legal tender notes	2,997,779 00
United States certificates of deposits for legal tender notes	100,000 00
Total	$30,093,365 39

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	$ 9,000,000 00
Surplus fund	3,024,338 27
Undivided profits	1,239,291 37
National bank notes outstanding	6,574,304 00
State bank notes outstanding	34,930 00
Dividends unpaid	34,111 25
Individual deposits	9,167,848 68
United States deposits	45,000 00
Due to national banks	589,445 45
Due to State banks and bankers	735,108 37
Notes and bills re-discounted	49,000 00
	$30,093,365 39

By comparison with the report of September 12, 1873, just prior to the panic, we find an increase in earnings of $2,696; circulation increased $7,542; deposits decreased $2,466,103; on the other side of the accounts loans have decreased $1,758,051; cash and exchange decreased $1,114,026; the whole of the December statement being made up of decreasing averages. The depositors have drawn out of the bank $780,000 more than the banks have drawn in from their borrowing customers, the difference being represented by the loss in cash and exchange, and yet we hear the dear public complaining of the want of liberality on the part of the banks.

One item is worthy of note, and that is the rediscounted bills, which are but $45,000, showing that the banks received little or no assistance from outside sources.

—Charles Cambios & Co., 38 South Third street, Philadelphia, advertise for claims against Jay Cooke & Co., for which they are paying cash. Price not stated.

—Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company's stock sold to-day at par, the highest point touched since September 20.

—The ease in money continues to increase, and the tendency of Wall street affairs seems to indicate that investors and the business public are beginning to take in the idea more thoroughly than before, that there is to be a plethora of money in New York and other monetary centers, and are shaping their affairs accordingly.

There is an evident inclination on the part of conservative people to accept lower rates of interest both in temporary engagements extending over a few months and on the purchase of securities for permanent investment. The moral of the late crisis is embodied in the idea of "greater security and more moderate profits," as it is now seen that it was impossible for railroads to borrow money at the extravagant rates of interest which many of them paid, and at the same time make their principal and interest secure to the bondholders.

Here's a happy condition of affairs in Cuba for the consideration of our inflationist friends: The Bank of Havana has emitted another avalanche of shinplasters. Flour has gone up to forty dollars per barrel, and meats range from seventy-five to eighty-five cents per pound. They are having a happy time.

—The reports of the Comptroller and the State Treasurer of South Carolina for the fiscal year ending October 31 last are before us. The State debt is $15,85...697 35. The assets of the State, consisting of stock in eight railroads, are reported at $980,700. The contingent liabilities, being indorsements of bonds of seven railroads, are $4,797,608 20.

The following shows some particulars from the schedule of taxable property in the State:

1873.	
Number acres arable lands	2,737,385
Value of above	$21,666,483
Number acres meadow and pasture land	3,340,097
Value of above	$7,481,079
Value of real estate not in incorporated towns, cities and villages	70,286,778
Value of real estate in cities, towns and villages	41,597,979
Value of taxable personal property	49,359,119

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue:

February 11, 1874.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00 P.M.
	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Gold	112¼	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜	112⅜
Western Union Teleg'h	77⅜	77⅜	76⅞	76⅞	76⅞	....
Pacific Mail	....	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	....
Adams Express	....	97½	....	97¾	98½	....
Wells-Fargo Express	....	....	....	....	64	....
American Express	....	64½	....	64½	....	64½
United States Express	....	71½	....	71½	....	71½
New York Central	104⅞	104⅞	104⅝	104⅞	104⅞	....
Erie	46⅜	46⅜	....	46⅜	46¼	....
Michigan Central	....	91¾	....	91¾	92½	....
Michigan Southern	82¾	83	....	83	83	....
Illinois Central	....	107	....	107¼	107⅜	....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	....	89½	....	....	89½	....
Chicago & Northwestern	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾	69⅝	....
Do Preferred	....	76	....	....	76	....
Rock Island	107⅝	108⅛	107⅞	107⅞	107⅞	108⅛
St. Paul	47¾	47¾	47¾	....	47¾	47¾
Do Preferred	73¾	73¾	73¾	....	73¾	73¾
Wabash	33¾	33¾	33¾	33¾	33¾	33¾
Fort Wayne	93¾	93¾	93¾	....	....	....
Ohio & Mississippi	34½	34½	34¼	34¼	....	....
Chicago and Rock Island	98¾	98¾	....	....	98¾	98¾
Boston, Hartford & Erie	....	113¾	....	111¾	....	....
Harlem	....	130½	....	129¾	130	....

—The following are the quotations for government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. 6s, 1881	119¾	119⅝	120
U. S. 6s, 1881, coupons	119¾	120⅛	120⅛
5-20s, 1865	117¾	117⅝	117⅝
5-20s, 1864	119	119⅛	119
5-20s, 1865	119¾	119¼	119¼
5-20s, new	118¾	118⅝	118⅝
5-20s, 1867	119¾	119⅝	119⅝
5-20s, 1868	119¾	119⅝	119⅝
10-40s	111⅞	112	112
10-40s, coupons	115¾	115¾	115¾
Currency 6s	116¾	116¾	116¾
New 5 per cents	113	113	113
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee	89¾	89¾	89¾
Tennessee, new	89¾	89¾	89¾
South Carolina, April	90	91	91
South Carolina, July	11	11	9¾
Missouri 6s	93	93¾	93¾

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R.	50¾
Penna. Scrip	97
Reading	87¼
United Co.'s N. J.	193
Oil Creek	17
Lehigh Valley	60
A. V. R. R. 7-30	92
General Transportation	43
Empire Transportation	80
P., C. & St. Louis 7s	69

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 12, 1874.

Corrected by Harris & Ewing, Wholesale Druggists:

Acid—			Magne cal	b	80 @1 00
Acetic	b 16 @ 20		—Carb	b	25 @ 40
Benzoic	b 1 85 @1 90		Manna S P	b	60 @ 65
Oxalic	b 25 @ 30		Morph sul	b	2 50 @ 2 60
Sulphuric	b 3 @ 5		Nutg N	b	1 40 @ 1 50
Tartaric	b 80 @ 82		Oil—		
Alcohol, gal	2 00 @ 2 20		Bergmot	b	6 25 @ 6 50
Aloes			—Castor	b	@ 27½
Arrow			—Cinnam	b	@ 4 50
Boost			—Cloves	b	@ 4 50
Bi Carb	b 17 @ 18		—Cod		
—Aqua	b 10 @ 12		Cod liver gal	2 00	@ 2 50
Annotto	b 80 @ 90		Lemon		
Balsam			Linseed gall	1 05	@ 1 10
Copaiba	45 @ 50		Neats F gall	1 05	@ 1 10
Bal Tolu	b 1 00 @ 1 10		Olive—		
Bay Rum	gal 2 25 @ 2 50		—quarts	doz	8 25 @10 00
Berries			—pints	doz	4 50 @ 5 00
Cassia	b 20 @ 40		Opium	b	7 00 @ 7 50
Cin Ch Red	b 30 @ 35		Oxgall	b	20 @ 25
—Pale	b 35 @ 45		Rosemary	b	1 00 @ 1 50
—Yellow	b 30 @ 35		Sassafras	b	50 @ 60
Black Leaf			Spearm gall	2 20	@ 2 40
Annatto	b	@ 60	Tanner gall	90	@ 95
Cassia	b 11 @ 13		Whale gal	85	@ 90
Cayenne	b	@ 30	Wintergr'n	b	@ 3 75
Star Anse	b	@ 80	Opium	b	@ 8 50
Blue Vitr	b 12 @ 15		Pt Paris	bbl	4 00 @ 4 50
Borax rd	b 20 @ 25		Potass		
Bristol	b 45 @ 50		Bichrom	b	@ 25
—Flor Sul	b 45 @ 50		Chlorate	b	@ 45
Calomel	b 85 @ 90		Iodide	b	3 25 @ 3 50
—English	b	@ 1 50	Fatty	b	4½ @ 4⅝
Camphor	b 80 @ 85		Quin sulp	oz	2 25 @ 2 50
Canth	b	@ 2 13	Resin	b	@ 70
Cham. Ger.	b	@ 60	Rose		
Chalk	b	@ 12	Gentian	b	@ 12
Chloro'm	b 1 25 @ 1 30		Ginger R	b	@ 30
Coca	b	@ 1 00	Jamaica	b	@ 1 00
Cochineal	b 80 @ 90		Jpecac pow	b	@ 1 00
Cop Sul	b 17½ @ 20		Kalap pow	b	@ 1 50
Copperas	b 3 @ 5		Liquorice	b	@ 25
Cream Tar	b 35 @ 40		Rhub C F	b	@ 1 50
Cubebs	b 18 @ 20		Sars Hon	b	@ 25
Dodine	b 2 50 @ 2 75		Senega	b	@ 50
Epsom Salts	b 12 @ 15		Valer Ru	b	@ 50
Ether Sul	b 90 @ 1 00		Gums		
—Nitph	b 65 @ 70		Sal Amm	b	15½ @ 17
Ext Logw	b 11 @ 12		Soda	b	@ 7
—Lig Cak	b 40 @ 50		—Soda	b	3¾ @ 4
—Lig Logw	b 10 @ 12		Seed		
—Stolly	b 25 @ 30		Canary	b	8 @ 8½
Fusile	b 2 @ 3		Coriander	b	@ 15
Galls Alep	b 20 @ 23		Cardamm	b	2 70 @ 2 90
—Ch			Mustard	b	12 @ 15
Arabic sts	b 30 @ 40		Senna Al	b	@ 16
—Pow	b 40 @ 50		Sen Ked	b	25 @ 30
Myrrh Tk	b 30 @ 35		Shellac		
—Pow	b 40 @ 50		Bl Carb	b	@ 16
Tragacanth	b 65 @ 90		Bleached	b	12½ @ 15
—Flake	b 1 00 @ 1 10		—Orn wh	b	18 @ 20
Hoffm's A	b 1 90 @ 2 00		Sugar L'd	b	12 @ 14
Indigo Ma	b 1 00 @ 1 25		Turp spg gall		50 @ 55
—Spa Pr	b 1 00 @ 1 10		Vanilla		
Iodine res	b	@ 8 00	Opium	b	@ 8 00
Jalap Ber	b 25 @ 30		Quassia	b	@ 12
Logwood	b 2½ @ 3¾		Damar	gall	1 60 @ 1 80
Mace	b 1 00 @ 1 20		Ven Red	b	3 @ 4
Madder	b 17 @ 19				

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 12, 1874.

REMARKS—The crude oil market was considerably excited yesterday and prices have further advanced with some heavy transactions in the oil regions. The advance at Parker's was: Union 25¾@c; United 25¾ 26c per barrel. This is what you may call going up rapidly. As a matter of course producers were jubilant over the situation.

CRUDE.

We can report a firm market throughout the oil regions. Trade continues active and prices healthy. The following sales will show the state of the market:

PARKER'S.

6,000 bbls United	$t 10¾	@	25
6,000 bbls Union	10¾	@	25

For prices at other points see dispatches.

REFINED.

The market continues to rule steady and prices have undergone no change. Sales are reported at the works at 12¾c free in cars.

Philadelphia—Steady; spot 14¼c; February 14¼ a15c; March 15a15½c.

New York—Sales this month's dealing 15c; March 15a15¼c; May 16¾c.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, February 11.—Cotton steady with a moderate demand at 12¾a13c. Corn 74a75c. Oats 66c. Flour, wheat and provisions quiet and unchanged. Whisky $1 01.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, February 11, 1874.

REMARKS—We scarce know what to say with regard to the markets. There are a number of contingencies upon which hinge the future of trade, all of which centers in the action of Congress, and it is hoped this will be made known at an early day.

We have few changes to note in the tone or volume of the markets which show few signs of change in prices.

The weather, as we write, gives token of a "general thaw," and a rise in the rivers will follow.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	9,043	6,973	19,016
Apples, bbls	919	763	1,432
Cheese, boxes	515	67	582
Corn, sacks	1,774	2,864	15,162
Wheat, sacks	4,870	7,334	12,204
Barley, sacks	2,174	4,329	13,998
Rye, sacks	2,946	2,430	5,725
Oats, sacks	7,716	7,139	14,855
Butter, pkgs	201	262	463
Bacon, pcs	4,707	10,291	14,998
Bacon, tcs	595	379	974

Below we give the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls	2,222	Apples, bbls	100
Corn, sks	1,115	Wheat, sks	2,500
Barley, sks	1,720	Rye, sks	510
Oats, sks	690	Butter, pkgs	29
Bacon, tcs	95	Potatoes, bush	700

The following will be found the wholesale rates of the market unless special mention is made to the contrary:

ALES—X $3 ⅌ bbl; XX ⅌; India ale $10 ⅌ bbl; Bass's English ale, in kitderkins of 28 gals $23 70a 24 24; bbls 41 gals $42 25a42 75; hhds, 68 gals $61 50 @63 00; in cases, 4 doz bottles, $20 75; Wm. Young's's India pale ale, in cases of 5 doz bottles $3 ⅌ doz; Robert Younger's sparkling ale, $3 ⅌ doz; Guinness's stout, bottled by A. Burke, $3 ⅌ doz; Cantrell & Coobrane's ginger ale, $2 25 ⅌ doz; Cornwell, Hazard & Co's ginger ale, $1 75 ⅌ doz.

ALTLAS—Sales of choice apples at $2 00@4 50; inferior $2 75@3 00 ⅌ bbl.

ASHES—Soda ash, common 3¾@4c; refined, 5c; potash, 9c; pearls, 10c; American, 6c; Gaul lead 5c.

APPLE BUTTER—There is a moderate inquiry at 60 @70c ⅌ gal.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Prices unchanged. We quote as follows: Hams, sugar cured extra ⅌ lb, 13c; shoulders, extra sugar cured ⅌ lb, 9¾c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 12c; dried beef, extra sugar cured ⅌ lb, 16¼c; beef tongues, extra sugar cured ⅌ doz, $7 50; bacon shoulders ⅌ lb, 8¾c; bacon ribs sides ⅌ lb, 9¾c; bacon short rib sides ⅌ lb, 6¾c; bacon clear sides, 10¾c ⅌ lb; mess pork ⅌ bbl, $16 75; lard, prime leaf in tierces, ⅌ lb, 10¼c; refined do for summer use, in half bbls, 11c ⅌ lb; refined do for summer use, in buckets, 11c ⅌ lb; lard, refined, in 5 lb caddies, ⅌ lb, 12¾c; refined do in 5 lb caddies, ⅌ lb, 12¼c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 13¾c; refined no in 5 lb pails, ⅌ lb, 16¼c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 18c; ham sausage, 20c.

BUTTER—We have no change to note in prices and quote strictly prime table butter at 35@40c; choice 30@35c; fair 25@30c; common 18a25c.

BRAN—Choice white nary at $2 00@2 50 ⅌ bushel.

BROOM CORN—Sales of red and red topped at 5½@6c; fair to good green 7½@8c; hurl 9¼@10c ⅌ lb.

BORAX—Prices unchanged at 25c ⅌ lb.

BROOMS—No 2 $2 ⅌ doz; No 3, $3 ⅌ doz; No 4, $4 ⅌ doz; No 5, $5 ⅌ doz; carpet brooms $3 ⅌ doz; toy brooms and whisps $1 50@3 00. In a jobbing way, from store, 50@75c ⅌ dozen additional.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—¼ lb cans ⅌ doz at $1 60; ½ do $3; 1 lb do $6 50; 5 lb cans $27; 10 lb tubs, ⅌ lb, 40c.

CARBON OIL—Sales f. o. b. at works at 13¼c with the usual advance on small lots from store.

CANNED GOODS—Tomatoes, 2 ⅌ cans, ⅌ doz, $2; 2 lb peaches, ⅌ doz, $2 50; 2 lb pie peaches, ⅌ doz, $2 50; Winslow's corn $2 25@3 00 ⅌ doz; Portland sugar corn $2 75 ⅌ doz; 3 lb tomatoes, ⅌ doz, $2 25@3 00; 3 lb peaches, ⅌ doz, $3 50; 3 lb pumpkin, ⅌ doz, $2 50.

CHEESE—Ohio dairy at 12½@13c; prime Ohio factory, September make, 14¾@15c in the trade, and 16@18½c in a jobbing way; young America 18c; Nutmeg 12c. Prime to choice Ohio Sweitzer 16@16c.

CIDER—$6 to $9 ⅌ barrel according to quality.

CRANBERRIES—To $13 ⅌ bbl; $3 50 to $4 ⅌ box.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $1 50@3 ⅌ case of four dozen pa kages.

CRACKERS—Lemon biscuit, 11½c; gingea snaps, 12¾c; oyster crackers, 7c; soda crackers, 7c; sugar crackers, 9¾c; butter crackers, 7c; water crackers, 7¾c ⅌ lb.

CEMENT—Youghiogeny, $1 95@2 00; Beeson's Phœnix, $1 50@3 00; Louisville, $1 25@2 50; Rosedale, $4 00@4 50; white lime, $2; calcined plaster, $4 50; land plaster, $3@3 50.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples 8@10c; prime peaches, halves 14@15c; peeled 18@20c; blackberries 14@15c.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 6¾@7c ⅌ lb.

EGGS—Are weak at 20@22c for strictly fresh; packed 15c per dozen.

FEED—There are no new features in the market, and we quote as follows: St. Louis $9 50; Fancy Indiana $8 75; Choice Ohio $8 50; Minnesota $7 50; Wisconsin $7@7 25. Rye flour $5 50. Corn meal $6 00. The market is reported rather dull.

AXLE GREASE.—Sales are reported as follows: Barrels ⅌ lb 6c; ½ do ⅌ lb 6½c; ¼ do ⅌ lb 7c; kegs ⅌ lb 8c; cans ⅌ doz $6 50.

FISH—No 1 extra mess mackerel $36; No 1 mess mackerel $34; No 1 shore mackerel $28; extra No 1 bay mackerel $19; No 1 bay mackerel $17; extra No 2 mackerel $17; No 2 bay mackerel $14; large No 3 mackerel $13 50; No 3 mackerel $10; split Labrador herring $8@9; white fish $7 50@8; lake trout $7@7 50; large Georges codfish $7@7 50 ⅌ 100; medium Georges codfish $6 50 ⅌ 100; red herring, scales, 90c ⅌ box; No 1 25c ⅌ box.

POTATOES—No 1 75@80c ⅌ b; No 2 C 70@72c, as to quality and quantity.

GROCERIES—The market is reported quiet, and it may be said somewhat dull. We need not enumerate the causes leading to this state of things. Following are the ruling rates of the market.

Coffee—Green, choice, 34c; prime 33c; good 30@31c; fair 29@30c; Java 35 to 40c. Roasted coffee—In papers 37c; in bulk, 35c; Java 45 to 50c.

Tea—Young Hyson, 50@85 10 ⅌ lb; Gunpowder's India pole ale, in casks of 5 doz bottles $3 ⅌ doz; Robert Younger's sparkling ale, $3 ⅌ doz; Guinness's stout, bottled by A. Burke, $3 ⅌ doz; Cantrell & Coobrane's ginger ale, $2 25 ⅌ doz; Cornwell, Hazard & Co's ginger ale, $1 75 ⅌ doz.

ALTLAS—Sales of choice apples at $2 00@4 50; inferior $2 75@3 00 ⅌ bbl.

ASHES—Soda ash, common 3¾@4c; refined, 5c; potash, 9c; pearls, 10c; American, 6c; Gaul lead 5c.

APPLE BUTTER—There is a moderate inquiry at 60 @70c ⅌ gal.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Prices unchanged. We quote as follows: Hams, sugar cured extra ⅌ lb, 13c; shoulders, extra sugar cured ⅌ lb, 9¾c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 12c; dried beef, extra sugar cured ⅌ lb, 16¼c; beef tongues, extra sugar cured ⅌ doz, $7 50; bacon shoulders ⅌ lb, 8¾c; bacon ribs sides ⅌ lb, 9¾c; bacon short rib sides ⅌ lb, 6¾c; bacon clear sides, 10¾c ⅌ lb; mess pork ⅌ bbl, $16 75; lard, prime leaf in tierces, ⅌ lb, 10¼c; refined do for summer use, in half bbls, 11c ⅌ lb; refined do for summer use, in buckets, 11c ⅌ lb; lard, refined, in 5 lb caddies, ⅌ lb, 12¾c; refined do in 5 lb caddies, ⅌ lb, 12¼c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 13¾c; refined no in 5 lb pails, ⅌ lb, 16¼c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 18c; ham sausage, 20c.

BUTTER—We have no change to note in prices and quote strictly prime table butter at 35@40c; choice 30@35c; fair 25@30c; common 18a25c.

BRAN—Choice white nary at $2 00@2 50 ⅌ bushel.

BROOM CORN—Sales of red and red topped at 5½@6c; fair to good green 7½@8c; hurl 9¼@10c ⅌ lb.

BORAX—Prices unchanged at 25c ⅌ lb.

BROOMS—No 2 $2 ⅌ doz; No 3, $3 ⅌ doz; No 4, $4 ⅌ doz; No 5, $5 ⅌ doz; carpet brooms $3 ⅌ doz; toy brooms and whisps $1 50@3 00. In a jobbing way, from store, 50@75c ⅌ dozen additional.

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CARBON OIL—Sales f. o. b. at works at 13¼c with the usual advance on small lots from store.

CANNED GOODS—Tomatoes, 2 ⅌ cans, ⅌ doz, $2; 2 lb peaches, ⅌ doz, $2 50; 2 lb pie peaches, ⅌ doz, $2 50; Winslow's corn $2 25@3 00 ⅌ doz; Portland sugar corn $2 75 ⅌ doz; 3 lb tomatoes, ⅌ doz, $2 25@3 00; 3 lb peaches, ⅌ doz, $3 50; 3 lb pumpkin, ⅌ doz, $2 50.

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DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 6¾@7c ⅌ lb.

EGGS—Are weak at 20@22c for strictly fresh; packed 15c per dozen.

FEED—There are no new features in the market, and we quote as follows: St. Louis $9 50; Fancy Indiana $8 75; Choice Ohio $8 50; Minnesota $7 50; Wisconsin $7@7 25. Rye flour $5 50. Corn meal $6 00. The market is reported rather dull.

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Tea—Young Hyson, 50@85 10 ⅌ lb; Gunpowder 60@85c; Imperial, 50@75c; Japan, 50@85c; gunpowder, 25@30c ⅌ lb; fancy, $1 ⅌ lb; Souchon 35@50c ⅌ lb.

Sugars—Standard Ex. C, 10¼c; Standard B, 10¾c; Standard A, 10¾c; Standard hards, 11¾c.

Molasses—Strictly prime New Orleans, 75c; choice, 80c, and scarce; old or p, 65@70c, and little in market.

Syrups—Extra White Drips, 70c; Sugar Dirps, 65c; lower grades, 45@50c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Carolina, 9@9½c; Patna, 8@8½c; Rangoon 8c.

GRAIN—We have nothing new to give the reader in the grain market. The rulings of the market are about as follows: Red wheat $1 00@1 05, and $1 05@1 15 for amber and white. Oats—Prime white 54@56c, and mixed 52@53c. Corn—Prime yellow, shelled, old at 78@80c; mix-d 68@70c; old ear 78@80c; and new prime at 70@72c; new shelled, 73@75c. Rye $1 05@1 10; barley, No 2, $1 45@1 50.

HONEY—Choice clover 40c ⅌ lb; buckwheat 30@35c.

HOMINY—Sales at $1 50@5 25 ⅌ bbl.

HOPS—1873's 45@50c ⅌ lb; 1870's 35@40c; 1871's 15@20c.

HAY—Baled on wharf and track $18@22 ⅌ ton; loose on wagon $22@25.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $6; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5.

SHINGLES—Sales at $6 00@7 50 ⅌ bbl, the latter for silver alder.

LARD OIL—Winter strained 80c ⅌ gallon; fall 75c.

PEAS—$1 65@

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1874.

Wanted.

WEEKLY COMMERCIALS of the following dates to complete our files: February 24th, July 13th and September 28th 1872, and March 1st, 1873.

BUT who will insure the insurers? It is proposed to organize a company to insure the fidelity of officers of banking institutions, manufacturing corporations, etc. The plan is not only impracticable, but it would tend also to increase whatever distrust as to the honesty of such employees may now prevail.

WE ARE glad to observe that most of the State Legislatures now in session are beginning to pay some attention to the important subject of prison reform. That even convicts are capable of far better uses experience has proved, not once but many times, and economic as well as humane motives should prompt society to subject them to moral, intellectual and industrial training.

IT IS now believed that the recent mendacious report that the Russian government declined to make any provisions for sending goods to the Centennial, on the ground that it was a private enterprise, was due to a sinister influence at work in London, which will probably manifest itself periodically, in the dissemination of like damaging reports. It is well, therefore, that the public should be on their guard against them.

THE New York *World* publishes a very interesting exhibit of the business of the various steamship lines plying between New York and Europe. Some idea of the immense traffic and travel for the year 1873, between that port and Europe, may be gathered from the fact that the total number of trips during the year was 1,368; that there was received for passenger travel the sum of $19,804,450, and for freight $39,773,200, making the aggregate receipts $59,577,650.

THE value of a flag consists chiefly in its significance as an outward symbol of the inward instinct of the people who exalt it. Upwards of a hundred flags of the defunct Confederacy were, it is said, displayed in Macon, Georgia on the recent anniversary of the birthday of ROBERT E. LEE, but there was not a solitary "star-spangled banner" amongst them all. And yet these are the people who whine about the alleged harshness of Northern feeling.

IT SPEAKS well for the extension of the trade in American manufactured silks, and furnishes conclusive evidence of the excellence already attained by our manufacturers, that the amount of silk manufactured goods imported from the 1st of July to the 31st of January, in 1872-3, was $18,010,765; while the imports of the last seven months are only $12,508,850, which gives a falling off of $5,501,915, as is shown by the statistics of the January report of the American Silk Association.

WE DO not exactly see that Congress is entitled to the special commendation awarded it in some quarters for its alleged intention to pass a bill making it a penal offense to cheat or defraud an Indian, or to fraudulently obtain his signature or mark to a receipt for money, which has not been fully explained to him. Of course the Indians ought to be protected "from swindling agents, contractors, and others, who have heretofore grown rich at their expense;" but why was not such a measure passed long ago?

THE fact that the new American Steamship Company, whose steamers run between Liverpool and Philadelphia, furnishes accommodations to the emigrant at its own expense, similar to those furnished by the New York Emigration Bureau at the cost of the emigrant, is beginning to trouble the Gothamites, who are afraid it may ultimately have the effect of causing the owners of vessels to run their ships to Philadelphia instead of New York—which is very likely, indeed, to be the case, unless a more liberal and humane policy shall presently be adopted.

THE Philadelphia *North American* publishes a tabular statement of the official statistics of the domestic exports from the port of Philadelphia during the month of January, which foot up $2,584,207, against a total of $1,311,593, being an increase of $1,272,689, notwithstanding the panic, crash and revulsion. Of these exports the leading articles were: Petroleum, $735,114; cotton, $385,573; meat, $535,393; flour, $158,285; provisions, $219,337; tobacco, $63,711; tallow, $31,114; iron, $36,601; coal, $36,157. The remaining articles were leather, hides, chemicals and drugs.

WE ARE not often able to indorse any proposition emanating from Washington looking to the establishment of additional government "agencies." But we thoroughly approve of the proposed plan of establishing a central pension agency, to be attached to the Pension Bureau, whose duties shall be similar to those at present performed by pension agents. There is little doubt that the work of paying pensions could be done vastly cheaper than under the present system, while but few additional clerks would be required for the Pension Bureau. It is a good step in the direction of practical economy and retrenchment.

THE sapient legislators of New Jersey want Congress to assume the entire expense of arming and equipping the whole militia of the United States, upon the ground that the purchase of such arms and equipments imposes a great burden on the States themselves; forgetting—the simpletons—that even in such an event the money to foot the bill would eventually have to come out of the pockets of the people. No one wishes to deprive New Jersey of the privilege of playing soldier, to her heart's content—or of paying for the diversion afterwards. And then, what interest has a foreign State like New Jersey in the matter, anyhow?

AN IMPORTANT decision has just been rendered by the Supreme Court of Illinois, which not only affirms the right of the Legislature to fix the rate of charges for elevator proprietors, and to make it penal for them to receive higher rates, even by contract with the party paying the same, but extends, in principle, to the far broader question of when and how the Legislature may declare any business to be a public one, and pass laws limiting the compensation of the person or persons conducting the same. This is one of the questions which lie at the base of the great railroad problem of that State, which, it is thought, is in effect thereby solved.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the immense accumulation of business before the United States Supreme Court a division of the labors of that tribunal is in contemplation. The court is now fully two years behind with its cases, and with no probability that it will clear off the docket. The proposed remedy is to divide the court so as to let five Judges hear and determine causes at one season of the year, and the other five hear and determine causes at another season, which would be equal to having two courts. This plan, however, would necessitate the appointment of another Judge, as there are only nine Judges at present.

WE ARE not sure that our present naturalization laws are not too lax and general for the proper protection of the people. The fact has just come to light that in 1868, just prior to an election, two courts in the city of New York *in thirteen days* issued naturalization papers for 37,000 applicants, which were duly recorded; and that in addition to these 37,000 were naturalized, the majority of whom voted, that cannot be traced, as no record was kept. The blanks for this latter number went into the courts, but no record thereof was made. The keeping of such records as would show at all times the actual transactions of a court of record in the issuance of naturalization papers, ought to be made mandatory, and Congress should pass a law to that effect.

THE revision of laws discussion, now in progress, has already brought to light a number of important mistakes on the part of the committee to which the work of revision was intrusted. In the tariff revision, for instance, a number of serious blunders have been detected. It was found that whereas, under the laws as they stand, on washed wool a clause was left out in the revision by the committee, which would have admitted both kinds of wool at the lower rate. Representatives of different interests are at work examining the codification, and the Secretary of the Treasury has set two competent experts at work upon the codification to prevent mistakes, which might be mischievous for the government.

SENATOR BRUCE, the new colored Senator from Mississippi, is highly spoken of by the Republican papers of the State. He is said to possess very fair intellectual abilities, some culture, and a good deal of general information with regard to politics and parties, while his private character is reported to be spotless, and his official career to have been straightforward and unblemished. Mr. BRUCE was formerly a slave, in Missouri. After the close of the war he was for some time employed as porter on one of the Mississippi river steamers. He afterwards went to school at Oberlin, Ohio, and finally worked his way to Mississippi; was appointed Sheriff by GOVERNOR ALCORN, and served two terms with honor, previous to which he was Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives of that State.

THE COUNTY WORKHOUSE.

The reports of the various reformatory and benevolent institutions, supported either by the voluntary contributions of citizens or the legal taxation of property holders, are worthy the careful study of all concerned. Those who have cheerfully contributed from their abundance, as well as those from whom the law has collected a fixed percentage, for the reformation or support of the vicious and unfortunate, should, and doubtless do, take an interest in the records presented for their consideration. The financial statements must have a charm for those whose money is represented in the carefully adjusted tables and accounts.

Among the many reports that we have received and examined, none appears more satisfactory than that presented by the Board of Managers and Superintendent of the Allegheny County Workhouse. It should be eminently satisfactory to the taxpayers of the county, because it proves so conclusively that the labor of those convicted of minor offenses against the peace and order of the community may be made, by judicious management, to pay the cost of maintenance during imprisonment. This fact is remarkable. But the report shows more than this—that those convicted of vagrancy, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, etc., while undergoing a reformatory process that must certainly result in good to themselves, have not been an expense to the honest, hard-working community by their incarceration, but *a positive source of income.*

The problem which has engaged the attention of many thoughtful, philanthropic men, in the large cities, has been fully solved in the Workhouse of this county.

This report, so brief and terse in general statements, and yet so minute and particular in its cash accounts, does not at a first cursory reading clearly make evident all that has been done by the Board and Superintendent.

Knowing that the financial success of a penal and reformatory institution is dependent on many complex elements, such as the physical condition of the prisoner, the term of his imprisonment, the amount received from the State for payment of salaries, or other purposes, we have carefully examined the reports of the Albany Penitentiary and the Detroit House of Correction, and, by the reports of each, would prove that the Allegheny County Workhouse may justly claim a prominent position among the prisons. We select these two institutions because in so many points they resemble our own. Both, like our own, are county or city prisons, and have been successful financially. They have been controlled by Messrs. PILLSBURY and BROCKWAY, gentlemen who have gained a world-wide reputation, and have been regarded as authorities by all who were interested in prison labor and reform. Both have been notable for reformatory, as well as financial results.

Take first the term of imprisonment: Albany, thirty days, one year to twenty years, or life; Detroit, ten days, one year to twenty years, or life; Allegheny county, twenty days to two years. Average number of inmates in each in 1872: Albany, 574; Detroit, 439; Allegheny county, 305. The average term of each inmate was: In Albany, 180 days; in Detroit, 114 days; in Allegheny county, 68 days.

General PILLSBURY, in his report of the Albany Penitentiary for the year ending October 31, 1870, shows a net gain of....$18,132 25
From which he honestly deducts the amount received for board of United States and county prisoners, amounting to..... 16,383 03

$ 1,749 22

and he justly claimed credit for this amount, as being the surplus above the entire cost of maintenance.

In his report for 1871, with an average of 514 inmates, he claimed a net profit of...$19,018 07
Deduct amount received from United States and counties..... 16,350 15

Real gain, excluding board of prisoners..... $ 2,667 92

The Detroit House of Correction was completed in 1861, and began manufacturing at a time when materials and labors were at the lowest point. Having the advantage of a rising market, and an active demand for products, its reports for 1862-3 show a deficit; but from the latter date exhibit an increasing gain over expenses. In 1870, with an average of 425 inmates, it claims a surplus of $13,110; from which, deduct amount received from United States and counties, $13,000, and we have as real gain above cost of maintenance, $110. While the records of Albany and Detroit show an annual *gain* instead of an annual *loss* —and from this fact are worthy of highest commendation—we yet claim that the Allegheny County Workhouse, judged by its report of 1873, stands first among the reformatory prisons of the United States, and that the facts and results therein stated have never been equaled by any similar institution in this country or Europe.

Governed by a law which limits imprisonment in the Workhouse to two years for one offense, it loses its convicts at a time when careful training on the part of the officers, and experience in skilled labor by the inmates, would result in profit to the county and good to the prisoner. Having no five, ten or twenty years' inmates, its success is dependent on the labor of those whose average term is sixty-eight days.

Another important factor in the financial success of Albany and Detroit prisons must be noticed. Each one receives from the United States, for prisoners committed to their charge, an amount for board per week that would yield any prison *a profit* over cost of maintenance *in idleness*, so that the labor of such convicts must be a clear gain to those institutions that have government patronage. The only credit for board that we noticed in the Allegheny county report was $127, received from Fayette county.

Above and beyond the financial success of the Workhouse, we value the *moral benefit* which the community receives from the institution. Reformatory results cannot be accurately estimated, or the number of those who have been transformed from criminals into good citizens cannot be definitely stated. It must, however, be evident to all, that continued regular labor, as enforced in a well disciplined prison, combined with the kind counsels of Superintendent and chaplain, and the use of all means that modern prison reformatory science has so successfully employed, will certainly return the convict to society in better physical, mental and moral condition than when he entered its doors.

While we may not fully agree with the Superintendent that "industry" will certainly make a man "virtuous," yet we are confident that steady, regular employment is essential to reformation. We would call attention to the following statement by the Superintendent, while referring to industry:

"Before dismissing this subject, I wish to call your attention to two remarkable points: *First*, notwithstanding our extensive business transactions, amounting to nearly $450,000 during the past two years, we have not sustained a single pecuniary loss, and not a bad or even a doubtful debt can be found on our books; and *second*, the bitter opposition, formerly manifested by citizen coopers against this branch of industry, has entirely disappeared, and this probably from the very fact that we never competed with them by underselling the market, and thereby proved that *prison* labor need not in itself be antagonistic to *free* labor."

We commend the entire report, with its valuable and clear tables, to the taxpayers of the county.

A USEFUL EXPERIMENT.

Corporal punishment having been abolished some time ago in the public schools of New York City, the results of the reform, so styled by the friends of the measure, have been looked for by the public with some little interest. The immediate effects of the change were manifestly unfavorable, and gave rise to loud complaints on the part of both parents and teachers. The reformers, however, were not alarmed or discouraged; they explained that when the rod was abrogated, no substitute had been prescribed by formal legislation, and that the evils complained of were the natural consequences of the neglect. School boys and school girls, they said, must of course be liable to some sort of punishment in case of disobedience or bad conduct, and no doubt suspension from the privileges of school or detention after the close of school hours, or some other equally undegrading infliction, would, on trial, be found more effectual than the barbarous rod in maintaining discipline. The argument was satisfactory to those at least who, believing in the power of "moral suasion," had secured the experiment and wished for its success. A by-law was accordingly adopted by the New York School Board, by which the Principals of the schools were authorized to re-enforce "moral suasion" by such gentle methods of punishment as were not flatly inconsistent with its spirit.

It is painful if not surprising to learn that, even when thus vigorously re-enforced, "moral suasion" seems destined to fail as a mode of controlling the boys of New York. In his report for year before last, Mr. HENRY KIDDER, City Superintendent of Schools, confidently took the ground that "moral suasion had failed to restrain a large class of the pupils," and therefore recommended that "the right to inflict corporal punishment be restored to the Principals." To some of the members of the School Board this recommendation was very unwelcome. In truth, they could not comprehend its necessity, they being moral reformers of the most modern and confident school; and at their suggestion a committee was appointed to investigate the facts upon which the recommendation was grounded. After thorough inquiry this committee reported unanimously in favor of a restoration of the rod. This report became the subject of prolonged discussion in the Board, when many of the members who, in the meantime had been thinking and making inquiries for themselves, expressed their concurrence in the recommendation. But the champions of reform, being reformers, were not yet satisfied, and as their convictions were naturally very strong, being, like those of philosopher SQUARE in FIELDING'S novel, "grounded in the eternal fitness of things," they seem to have made good their position. At any rate, in spite of the recommendation of the Superintendent and the report of the committee, the Board determined to give moral suasion a longer trial. And Mr. KIDDER, in his report for last year, once more returns to the subject. He quotes with fresh emphasis the statement of his former report that "the by-law in regard to suspension had not been found adequate to prevent the frequent occurrence of the most heinous offenses in the schools on the part of vicious boys—such as insulting and outrageous language to teachers, violent and injurious assaults upon their fellow-pupils, the wanton destruction of school property and gross disobedience and constant disregard of the rules of the school." Mr. KIDDER also reports a "considerable falling off in respect to discipline in the male grammar schools." While as a general thing good order is maintained, it is, he says, "evidently only by means of a great expenditure of time and labor on the part of both principals and class teachers."

Mr. KIDDER'S meaning plainly is, that in the absence of the authority and means needful for the maintenance of order, the teachers are compelled to spend an excessive portion of their time and energy in the application of moral suasion to their refractory pupils. It is a very significant fact, the force of which may not be recognized by all readers. As we write we call to mind a teacher of deserved reputation as a disciplinarian. We use the word constantly employed to designate the character in which he was believed to excel. If asked to define the word, his admirers would have said that he was a capital hand at governing boys, as without apparent difficulty he could maintain excellent order in his great household of them, never using the rod and yet, in the course of a few days, reducing to submission even the most refractory. The statement to some might appear the more noteworthy because this admirable disciplinarian was a man of slight and delicate frame and feeble voice. But he had a firm will, excellent eyesight and excessive cunning, and he literally devoted his time and talents to the ruling rather than to the teaching of the boys under his care. Time and breath expended in gaining what he called moral influence with a boy, he thought well expended. He thought nothing of spending an hour or two hours in admonishing or reasoning or expostulating with a troublesome pupil. Of course some of this work was done out of school hours, but it was no uncommon thing for a single unruly lad to absorb the exclusive attention of the master for half an hour or more, while fifty or sixty pupils were neglected as regarded the great object for which they were sent to school. Indeed, it was a familiar artifice of mischievous fellows thus sometimes to distinguish themselves, at the expense of their companions.

Though a peculiar case, the foregoing illustration of the method is peculiar only in degree. Almost any teacher of mature age, and possessed of the physical, mental and moral qualities required in his work, *could*, perhaps, control a school without the use of force. But, unless notably favored in his allotment of scholars, the teacher is certain to have under his charge some whom he finds it impossible to rule by moral suasion, without giving them a degree of attention quite incompatible with the duties of his position. In many instances he would probably fail after all his pains. This at least is the opinion of Mr. KIDDER, who has had ample opportunity of attaining sound views; but if he succeeded, it would be by paying a disproportionate measure of attention to the mere government apart from the instruction of his school, and by giving to the least industrious and promising of the pupils time and effort which rightly belonged to all the pupils over whom he was placed. So it has been found in New York, and we doubt not, the result will be the same wherever the same experiment is tried. It still remains, and will always remain a truth that, wherever government is essential to the end for which human beings *en masse* are placed under the rule of a single will, the governor must be invested not only with authority, but with the means of enforcing by such penalties as the lowest natures are capable of feeling.

"OUR TICKET."

The Republican City Convention Tuesday nominated WM. C. MCCARTHY for Mayor, and we cheerfully indorse the nomination. We have taken no part in the struggle over this nomination, and have been content to let the people decide between the contestants. They *have* decided, and it is our part, now, to help in giving success to their nominee.

Mr. MCCARTHY is emphatically a man of the people. He belongs to the class of those who toil for a living, and he has literally earned his bread in the sweat of his brow. He has grown up in and with the city, has been identified with it from childhood, and has always labored heartily and earnestly to promote its best interests. His long service in Councils has made him familiar with all the details of city business, and the fact that the people of his ward have kept him so long in the harness, is an earnest at once of their strong confidence in him, and of his unfaltering fidelity to the trust reposed in him.

He has had, besides, experience in the Mayoralty, and is therefore doubly qualified by his services in Councils and in the Mayor's office, to discharge successfully the duties of the high place to which he has been named. His record as a public officer is without a blot, and he has given such strong evidences of his capacity, in every place in which he has been tried, that the voters of Pittsburgh need not hesitate a moment in choosing him as their chief magistrate.

The Jeffersonian tests of fitness for office were: Is he honest? Is he capable? Is he faithful to the Constitution? To all three of these questions, applied to Mr. MCCARTHY, it is easy to return an affirmative answer. His honesty has been attested by a long and blameless public life; his capacity has been shown in the successful discharge of his public duties; and his fidelity to the principles of free government has been demonstrated by a devotion to them which does not admit of question. He was an anti-slavery man in the days when persecution was the sole reward of adherence to the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence; and he has been a Republican from the start. His political record shows him to have been rooted and grounded in the Republican faith from the beginning, and that he has never once faltered in support of it.

We are able to vouch for his personal honesty and integrity. He has been tried and has not been found wanting. He may be impulsive and over-zealous, betimes; but he is always true and upright. The attempt to charge him with crime has but reacted upon the heads of those who made it. The great aim of his life has been to keep his name unsullied and pure. Honesty is with him, not a question of policy but of duty. He believes in it, and he acts up to his belief. No one who knows him, doubts the sterling purity of his character, and we bear this testimony in his behalf, based on a personal acquaintance with him which dates back more than a third of a century.

We invoke for him, therefore, the united, earnest and vigilant support of the Republicans of the city. Whatever asperities may have grown up during the canvass for this nomination, should be promptly buried out of sight. But a week remains in which to labor for his election. Let it be spent in faithful work, and in close attention to the duties of the hour. Mr. MCCARTHY is, in all respects, deserving of the confidence and support of the people, and we trust to see him triumphantly elected. He is a workingman, and his opponent is an aristocrat. He belongs to the people, and his opponent has nothing in common with them. To the people, then, we appeal in his behalf, and to all Republican people do we especially commend him.

Mr. C. L. MAGEE was unanimously renominated as the Republican candidate for Treasurer, and he will receive the united and hearty support of the party. He has filled the office most creditably and acceptably, and has made a record which will stand proof against the most thorough and searching inquiry. Indeed, the more that is known of the manner in which he has guarded the city funds, the higher will his services be appreciated by the people. The principal objection urged against him two years ago, when he was first before the public as a candidate, was his youth and consequent want of experience. Having been trained in the office of the Controller and Treasurer, for several years previously, he was well qualified for the position, and his friends never doubted his capacity. His administration shows that he is not only capable, but honest and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. He has made many friends among those who were opposed to his nomination two years ago, who now cheerfully bear testimony to his ability and integrity, and will do all in their power to re-elect him. Taking the past as a guarantee for the future, the public may continue Mr. MAGEE with the utmost confidence that he will remain a steadfast and faithful custodian of the public funds.

Colonel ROBERT M. SNODGRASS, for Controller, has also the compliment of a unanimous nomination. Mr. SNODGRASS has devoted much of his time to city affairs, having served in Councils for a number of years, and more recently in the capacity of Assistant Controller. On the resignation of Mr. MCGOWAN as Controller, he was chosen by Councils to fill the vacancy, and now he is before the people as the choice of the Republican party for that important office. He has the requisite ability and integrity, and will make a good officer.

DOUBTFUL SCENES.

A singular feature of the feminine crusade against the saloons and drug stores in Ohio is said to be the apparent satisfaction with which many of the patrons of those establishments regard the labors of the crusaders. One night beforehand have supposed that they, if absolutely no others, would have at least a little sympathy to spare for the men who had so faithfully ministered to their tastes. Several considerations may be suggested, each of which may have some influence in determining their feeling in the premises. In the first place, we might safely take for granted—which indeed has been stated by one correspondent as a fact—that the topers who give frank expression to the gratification with which they witness the confusion and trouble of the liquor sellers, are for the most part young. They, therefore, in the spirit of their age naturally enjoy the excitement which the movement causes in their village. It banishes monotony and introduces some variety into their uniform secluded lives. Probably in some of them their sense of humor is touched and they may find the scenes amusing or even funny. Then, as essentially well meaning young fellows, they cannot help sympathizing with the women of their village, mothers, sisters, sweethearts, etc., as against their mercantile antagonists, especially as the women engaged in the crusade belong to the most respectable and influential families of the place. Another suggestion worthy of mention applies equally to topers of all ages. No illusion is more common among them or much more mischievous than the notion that when they "drink" too much or "drink" at all in the unconsciousness of doing wrong, others and not they themselves are responsible for the transgression. "To lay one's goatish disposition to the charge of a star," and to lay one's love of or indulgence in strong drink at the door of the rumseller, are "admirable evasions" with which even boys early become familiar, and which old men sometimes cherish as about the only, as it may be the last, support of their vanishing self-respect. To remind people that such an illusion is common and susceptible of being nourished with mischievous consequences, is not either to commend or to acquit the liquor seller of all responsibility.

When referring to the strange movement in Ohio we may mention a recent incident which to some will most likely seem to foretoken evil results apparently not foreseen or anticipated by the good people who have applauded the so styled crusade. In the village of New Vienna, a saloon keeper named VAN PELT, whose bar had been besieged for several days by the praying women, at length refused to admit them unless they would agree that he himself might spend one-half of the time in leading their devotions. Accordingly when one of the women had brought her intercessions to a conclusion, VAN PELT took his turn and delivered a long prayer, in the course of which, besides beseeching the LORD to have mercy upon his unwelcome visitors and increase their understanding, he cited various scriptural texts and facts which he supposed to sanction his trade. Certainly, in the light of history it is difficult to believe that any real or permanent good results can flow from such scenes. The movement appears to be almost exclusively controlled by one religious denomination.

GROWING CAPITAL.

The *Journal*, a German paper published in Washington, calls attention to a somewhat neglected aspect of the subject of immigration. It seems that, according to the estimate of the Bureau of Statistics, the average pecuniary value of every immigrant, including his laboring power and the capital he brings with him, amounts to $800. Viewed in the light of such a fact, the subject cannot but become important in the eyes of calculating citizens. Thus the 459,083 immigrants who landed on our shores in 1872 were equivalent in value to $367,266,400 added to the capital of the country—no insignificant increase in a single year. And the *Journal* takes a not unnatural satisfaction in stating that much the larger part of this enormous sum was introduced by Germans, who formed a considerable majority of the immigrants in the year referred to, and who are to a great extent well-to-do in their circumstances. Statistics, in fact, show beyond controversy that German immigrants, as a class, are not only people fond and capable of work, but are besides representatives of all the skilled trades and professions. Smiths of every kind, masons, cabinet-makers, dyers, gardeners, carpenters, jewelers, watchmakers, millers, miners, tailors, and, in a word, all sorts of mechanics, are found among them in abundance. We may moreover add that very many of them are highly skilled artisans, whose workmanship would satisfy the most fastidious European taste, and that if by their presence they sometimes provoke complaints on the part of native workmen, they also enable us to occupy an advanced position in industrial pursuits. So that if our Hibernian friends can demand with triumph and exultation,—"who but we built your railroads and dug your canals?"—our Teutonic fellow-citizens might, with equal justice, demand—"who but we made your elegant furniture, worthy of the Paris market, and the splendid pianos, which already surpass the instruments made in Europe?"

Returning to the remarks of the *Journal* we find the statement that between 1844 and 1860, 1,720,000 Germans in all settled in the United States, who at $800 apiece equaled the introduction into the country of $1,379,200,000. And between 1860 and 1874, the number of immigrants with its aggregate value of money has been more than doubled, so that one is safe in assuming that since the date first mentioned capital to the amount of three thousand millions of dollars has been brought into the country by Germans alone. It is a satisfactory way for a German to look at the subject, and we can think of no sufficient reason why others, as well as they, should not accept the results. The lack of precision or definiteness in the data rather aids than embarrasses the imagination.

BOLTING.

The proceedings of the Republican Convention called to nominate a candidate for Mayor of this city are fully and fairly reported in another column. It will be seen that there was a close and exciting contest; but it is clear that Mr. MCCARTHY had a majority of the delegates, and was rightfully nominated. The action of the minority, large and respectable as it was, in bolting the nomination, and setting up another candidate, was inexcusable, and cannot be justified upon any pretext what-ever. Each of the candidates entered the canvass with the distinct understanding that he and his friends would be bound by the result; and each candidate had given his written pledge that he would abide the decision of the convention. The utter folly of attempting to set up candidates in this irregular way, was exemplified in the case of the bolters themselves, whose action in nominating Dr. GROSS was at once repudiated by the friends of Mr. KIRK, who in turn bolted, or threatened to bolt, and were only pacified by the withdrawal of Dr. GROSS'S name and the substitution of that of Mr. KIRK. Followed to its legitimate result, such conduct must end only in political anarchy and defeat. Those who sustain the Republican party not merely on account of their personal preferences for its candidates, but for the sake of the principles it represents, will have no hesitation in denouncing this bolt. Whatever may have inspired it, its tendency is to defeat the party nominee and place a Democrat in the office.

PHILADELPHIA is spoken of by the *North American* as a "rectangular wilderness," and the phrase is a remarkably descriptive one. That flourishing and rapidly increasing city is spreading out over an immense area, and is rapidly becoming a vast wilderness of houses. The paved streets now extend out to the county line, and the gas lamp, the water hydrant and the street railroad have followed the paved streets. Huge empty spaces, of course, intervene between the outermost houses and the densely built portions of the city; but these will eventually disappear, and that at no distant day; and then Philadelphia will cover more ground compactly than any other city on the American continent.

The difference between Philadelphia and other large Eastern cities is in the supply it affords of small and neatly built tenements, suited to the wants of families of very limited means. No other Eastern city has so many two and three-story brick houses, with from four to eight rooms, as she has, and in no other has the workingman the same chance of being accommodated with a house all to himself. New York can crowd more population into a smaller space; but she forces her poor into filthy tenement houses, and her well-to-do middle class into houses fitted up into suites of apartments on the French style, with half a dozen families under one roof. There may be some advantages in crowding people, in this way, into the space that lies between the earth and the sky; but they are not apparent, and the candid looker-on cannot help commending the Philadelphia plan, which secures to each family a roof-tree of its own, and secures that privacy so dear to every lover of domestic quiet.

We may be old-fashioned in preferring the calm peace of a life spent within walls which are sacred to the family protected by them; but we fancy that morality, as well as comfort, is promoted by a system which secures privacy to the family, and saves its little secrets from the oversight of prying eyes. The whirl of excitement may be greater where families are huddled together by the score, and crowds can be gathered in a moment almost from the air; but so long as man continues a domestic animal, and prefers to enjoy himself within the quietness of a home into which no other eye has the right to intrude, so long will the comforts of the "rectangular wilderness" of Philadelphia be preferable to the compacted miseries of dwelling in tenement houses and in suites of apartments. The craving for a home exclusively one's own is a human instinct, and Philadelphia, alone of all the Eastern cities, renders the gratification of it possible.

At her present rate of growth, Philadelphia must soon eclipse all her rivals. Over 6,000 new buildings were built there in 1873. This is a city, in itself, and it will require the lapse of but a few years to run up an enormous aggregate from such a basis. The same rate of building would give 60,000 new buildings in the current decade, and swell the population of that city to a million. The wilderness of new houses goes on spreading in all directions, its right angles adding to the pleasant bewilderment of the spectator; but it is a wilderness that betokens growth, and prosperity, and popular comfort; and the beholder pardons the bewilderment it produces, in rejoicing over the success it demonstrates and the security and personal enjoyment that so plainly grow out of it.

IN AN elaborate article on the industrial growth of Russia, the New York *Express*, a journal of pronounced free trade proclivities presents an array of statistics concerning the textile manufactures of that country, which, to our mind, constitutes one of the strongest arguments in favor of a protective policy that could possibly have been adduced. These statistics, which are derived from an official report prepared under the direction of the Imperial Russian Commission of the late Vienna Exposition, show the following progress to have been made: In 1800 there were only ninety-six cotton-weaving establishments in all Russia; in 1820 there were 440, producing in all about 27,000,000 yards of cotton cloth annually. In 1822 a prohibited tariff increased the number, and the production was greatly augmented. In 1830 there were 538 weaving establishments, producing more than 64,500,000 yards. Then came power-spinning, not before introduced. In 1850 there were twenty-five, and in 1871 fifty-one of these establishments, producing goods worth fifty million rubles. The grand total of all the cotton-manufacturing establishments of Russia, Russian Poland and Finland shows 2,391, employing 175,000 workmen, and producing goods valued at 162,000,000 rubles. In 1872 there were sold at the great fair at Nijni-Novgorod 32,400,000 rubles' worth of Russian cottonades, while the entire value of all foreign fabrics of cotton, wool, flax and silk was only 1,570,000 rubles. Up to 1822 the fabrication of woolen cloth was developed in Russia slowly, in spite of the government. In that year a prohibitive tariff came into effect when the establishments rapidly increased, and the manufacture of the higher grades of cloth was entered upon. In the seven years ending with 1871, there was an increase of nearly ninety per cent. in the value of woolen products, and in 1871 there were 798 factories, employing 110,200 workmen and turning out fabrics valued at 66,000,000 rubles, and with Poland and Finland added, 77,000,000 rubles. In consequence of this policy these various industries are now able to take care of themselves and hold their own against foreign competition, which would have ruined them thirty years ago. The encouragement afforded by the government to domestic manufactures has resulted in the independence of the country in this particular. It would be interesting to learn in what way our own free traders are able to reconcile these remarkable successes with the alleged disastrous effects of the protective system.

A GERMAN contemporary with an "Almanac de Gotha" in hand, notes a few of the changes of the last few years. In 1850 Europe had within its bounds fifty-six independent States; it has to-day only fifteen, not counting the petty States of Lichtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Andorra, or the tributary States of Roumania, Servia and Montenegro. The fifteen independent States of Europe are Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary, England, Italy, Spain, Turkey, Sweden and Norway, Belgium, Portugal, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark and Greece. The German empire which eight years ago contained thirty-six States, contains to-day twenty-six. In a few years these will most likely be reduced to four or five, and in twenty years a Duke of Meiningen, a Prince of Anhalt, or a Grand-duke of Darmstadt, will be as little talked about as the once mighty monarch of Pfalz Zweibruecken is talked about now.

The oldest sovereign in Europe is PIUS IX., eighty-two years old, and next him in age is his antagonist, Emperor WILLIAM of Germany, who is in his seventy-seventh year. The oldest German Prince is Prince GUENTHER of Schwarzburg, seventy-two years, and the youngest is King LUDWIG of Bavaria, twenty-eight years old. Europe has five republics—three real ones of old date, viz.: Switzerland, San Marino and Andorra, and two nominal ones, France and Spain. Within the last year the number of sovereigns has been diminished and the number of pretenders has been increased. Besides the ex-Emperor NAPOLEON, the ex-Duke of Brunswick and the reigning King of Saxony have died. Death also entered the royal houses of Russia, Prussia, Austria, Wurtemberg and Portugal. Of the ex-sovereigns most are so little in the thought of the world that they would be wholly forgotten but for the Gotha Almanac or similar record. Some of them are Emperor FERDINAND of Austria, living at Prag, 70 years old; King GEORGE of Hanover, living at Hietzing, near Vienna; Empress EUGENIE, King AMADEUS, ISABELLA of Spain, &c. It would be interesting to know what they all think of the change to private life.

THE number of new buildings put up within the boundaries of the city of Pittsburgh in the year 1873, furnishes a basis for conclusions as to the probable growth of the city. The population of the old city in 1870 was 86,000; the South Side additions have raised this total to 122,000; and the Thirty-seventh ward, recently added from Wilkins township, will make it 124,000. Allegheny City had a population of 53,000 in 1870; but the Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh wards have since been added, bringing the total to 60,000, at the lowest.

Now, if the city of Pittsburgh had put up 1,034 new dwellings in 1873, the number put up in Allegheny and in the suburban districts, included in surrounding the two cities was doubtless equally as large, and it will be perfectly safe to conclude that 2,000 new dwellings were built in 1873 in the two cities and suburbs. At an average of five to each dwelling, this would be a permanent addition to the population of 10,000. The increase in 1871 and 1872 was probably not so large; but it will be within bounds to put it at 15,000 in those two years.

The present population of what is generally known as "the city," would then be as follows:

Population of the city of Pittsburgh proper, in 1870	124,000
Population of Allegheny City, in 1870	60,000
Population of Suburban Districts, in 1870	10,000
Increase in 1871 and 1872	15,000
Increase in 1873	10,000
Total	219,000

This is about the present population of what is known to all as "Pittsburgh," without reference to municipal distinctions. The increase in three years has been thirteen per cent., which would be forty-three per cent., at the same rate, for the decade ending in 1880. This would bring our population up to 275,000 in that year. Of course, many things may happen to retard this rapid growth; but other things may happen, likewise, to stimulate it; and hence we confidently look forward to 300,000 as the figures for Pittsburgh, when the census is next taken.

ALL, but especially the champions of female rights, are waiting with lively interest and curiosity for the settlement of the question raised by the election of several women as school directors in the city of Boston. At its session eight or nine days ago the School Committee formally declared still vacant the seats to which the ladies had been elected. It seems that very short time and slight discussion enabled the committee to arrive at a decision of the question. No member of the committee urged or pretended either that the ladies had not been fairly elected or were, in any respect, not qualified for the position. The only reasons assigned or assignable for the action of the School Committee are that the persons elected are women and that women are not expressly recognized as eligible in the law. No doubt at least some members of the committee would have been willing and pleased to see the ladies admitted to the exercise of the office, but to concede their eligibility to the position of school directors would have been equivalent to a recognition of their right to any other office in the gift of the people from that of Governor down to that of constable, and in Massachusetts the great battle might have seemed to be gained by the advocates of female rights. There is, however, no reason for indignation or for suspicion of evil motives. The action of the School Committee merely refers the excluded members to the use of their remedy, an appeal to the Supreme Court, and the effect of the court's decision will probably be to satisfy those women who desire to be school directors that they must obtain the necessary action from the Legislature before the votes of the people can gratify their ambition. The women of Massachusetts may take hope of success from the example of Illinois, where the needful legislation was adopted some time ago. Possibly the women of Boston hoped to move the Legislature in their favor by practically exemplifying their qualifications as school directors.

A BILL has been introduced in Congress to tax lands granted to railroads. The special design of the bill is to remedy an evil that takes a different form in different States. Nebraska has several roads which are entitled to some of the best lands in the State, and the sections which they will ultimately own have already been surveyed and selected, but there is as yet little market for them, and as it is provided that the cost of surveying, selecting, and conveying the granted lands shall be paid by the companies before patents shall issue, those companies that neglect to pay the fees on lands that are not sold obtain at present no patents and escape taxation. The people of Nebraska think this unfair, and the bill is intended to correct the abuse. In some other States the railway companies neglect to obtain their patents even when they sell the lands to settlers, but instead of a deed execute a bond to the purchaser to give him a full title at some future time. In this way the purchaser of railway lands escapes taxation for a term of years. It is further understood that judicial questions are pending under the orders of Congress which may result in showing a large indebtedness of the companies, or some of them, for which the only lien of the government is upon the unpatented lands. The proposed law would seem to be based on sound principle. Of course the railway companies denounce it as unjust, alleging that it subjects to taxation lands which they cannot sell, and which in many instances are worthless, but the sufficient answer to this is that no land-owners are assessed when counties are not organized, and that there would be no taxes on lands which when appraised were found to be absolutely worthless.

WE REFERRED, the other day, to the unfair discriminations enforced by the Union Pacific Railroad against the Kansas Pacific freight and passengers which it receives at Cheyenne. The matter is now under consideration by the House Judiciary Committee, in the shape of an amendment to the 15th section of the act of 1864, which in substance makes it a misdemeanor for any officer or agent of the road to directly or indirectly charge or receive for freights, or passengers, passing to that road over any of the branches, a greater rate per mile than is charged for passing over the whole length of the Union Pacific, punishable with fine and imprisonment. The alleged reason for this is that shippers do not now dare, for fear of embarrassment in their business, to institute civil suits against the company to compel it to comply with the law. Making the violation in this respect a misdemeanor, it becomes